

THE MICHIGAN FARMER,

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Relating to the Farm, the Garden, and the Household.

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The Farm.

The Influence of the Moon on Vegetation.

TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH OF THE REVUE HORTICOLE FOR THE MICHIGAN FARMER.

Every one is well aware that great faith is placed in the moon by those who set out vines of any kind, and some dabbles in gardening believe that the moon controls not only the growth of the plant, but its power of fructification, and its properties of reproduction. Some plants must be left out of the ground to the full, others must be planted in the new moon, and some again when the full orb is decreasing in size and dwindling to obscurity. Not without reason, amongst the ancients did the same goddess represent a wondrous three-fold empire in heaven, on the earth, and in hades. Every one knows that he has learned from tradition, that the influence of the moon over seeds is something settled, known, determined and approved from the remotest antiquity, and that it has come down without question, and is received as a dogma too well authenticated even to be called in question. Yet when actually put to the test this moon power, does not prove to be of such power as the mass concede it to be, and some irreverent iconoclasts even raise their hands and smite the cherished old idol from its pedestal, and even put their foot on it after it is down, and grind it into dust with their modern high heeled boots. The editor of the *Revue Horticole*, we note, has had his attention called to the subject of the lunatic influences on vegetation, as being relied upon very universally throughout France, and he says on this subject:

The moon is only the silent witness of the misdeeds of which we are wont to accuse her, and which are really due to causes that can be easily explained. But on this subject prejudices are so great, that hardly the first movement can be made to eradicate them from the minds of horticulturists. The action of the moon upon the seasons and upon

vegetation is an article of faith with them.—We shall not, however, hesitate to combat it on every occasion. A nursery man of Bergerad writes us, "I am pleased to note that you have taken up the subject of the influence of the moon a belief in which, I am inclined to think, does a great deal of harm. A large proportion of our gardeners and farmers have a great confidence in the success which attends the sowing of certain seeds during a new or full moon; and under the pretext of waiting for this happy period, they are very often apt to lose the most favorable time for sowing, as well as a portion of the crop which they had hoped to be able to gather. For example the most favorable time has arrived for planting the garlic, and for us it should be down in the month of November. The gardeners who cultivate this plant, regard it as necessary to wait for the first phases of the moon. The reason given for this observance is: Garlic planted during the new moon are much larger, and each clove put in the soil, up to the moment of its being gathered, yields from five to six times as much as those planted out when the moon is in the full or afterwards. Cultivators also affirm that beans, peas, potatoes and other plants, sown or planted during the new moon, send up much more vigorous stems than those which have been set out during the last quarter of the moon, but that the returns of produce of these plants are very inferior to that which is obtained from plants that have had their seed set out during the full moon. The preference in these last cases would be for the full moon as the period of planting."

Wherever the question has come before us, as related above, we have been obliged, from numerous trials, for purposes of comparison, to ignore all appreciable influence of the increase or decrease of the moon on vegetation. The experiments of De la Quintinie, and especially those of Duhamel of Monceau have proved this in the most evident manner. In the new world, prejudices analogous to those which abound in the old world, govern very many; but the experiments made at Martinique by M. de Chanvalon resulted in showing that there was no appreciable difference to be observed from sowing seeds in the new or the full moon. Arago also examined the facts related of the pretended influence of the moon on vegetation, and arrived at results that negated the prevailing belief that the moon exerted any influence on vegetation.—The aphorisms which this illustrious astronomer examined were—

"If it be desired to have Cabbages and Lettuces that make a strong growth, or plants that will yield double flowers, or trees that yield fruit early, but are precocious, sow, plant, and prune them during the decrease of the moon."

"If plants or trees are wanted that grow with vigor, they should be sown or planted, and grafted and pruned during the increase of the moon."

In Brazil, Auguste de St. Hilaire relates that the belief is—

"That roots and tubers, should be planted during the new moon"

Pliny noticed in Italy that "Beans should be sown in the full moon, and Lentils another genus of Leguminous plants should be sown in the new moon."

From these statements, we perceive that in different localities, the influence of the moon is considered to have totally opposite effects. At the period of opposition or conjunction, the moon is charged with having a totally different effect on plants of the same kind.—That is to say, when the moon is full and is about 120,000 miles distant from the earth in the direction of the sun's position in the heavens, then a favorable influence is exercised upon Lentils, and upon the stems, branches, and general increase of wood, as well upon the growth of maize beans, sugar cane, rice, &c. On the other hand when the moon is the same distance from the earth, in conjunction or in the direction of the sun from the earth, then a favorable influence is exerted upon the growth of cabbage, lettuce, early leaving trees, beans, and potatoes, and roots. Thus a simple change of the position of the earth's satellite, is to effect a wonderful influence upon the growth of either the stem or the root,

or of the corn or cabbage. This is not possible.

The prevalence of the belief in the influence of the moon upon vegetation may be easily accounted for when the origin of the aphorisms above cited is known. Every one knows that amongst all people the measurement of time by the appearance and disappearance of the moon has been a common and general rule; and that from remote antiquity all the work done in the field has been performed by a calendar regulated by the appearance of the moon. Thus it has been a fixed rule that the season had come for sowing certain seeds in the first or last part of such and such a moon, or in their language during the increase or wane of the moon. These precepts have thus become traditional, and though at first only intended to mark the seasons, in the course of time that has been forgotten, and an influence has been ascribed to the moon, for which there is not the least foundation. Again, according to the geographical position of the regions in which the traditions relative to the moon prevail, certain agricultural and horticultural work is advanced or delayed some fifteen days, hence arise the apparent contradictions in regard to the moon's influence, and which in one place requires that the sowing of some kinds of seeds shall be done in the wane of the moon, whilst in others it is to be done in the new moon. The peasant of France who sows his cabbage seed by the shores of the Mediterranean according to tradition in the wane of the moon in February, firmly believes in the tradition that has transmitted to him this rule as his calendar, but which is not to him a calendar, for the calendar is now regulated by the almanacs, and is as well convinced that the moon exercises a beneficial influence at that period of her growth, as is the German boor, who sows the same seed in his garden on the shores of the Baltic six weeks later, that the only true time to sow it, according to the tradition of his fathers, is the new moon of May.

The Right Kind of Farming.

BY HENRY WARD BEECHER.

There are few places, for a visit, more delightful than a large and well kept farm.

The farm house, spacious, unpretending, neat, convenient; the barns large and clean; the out houses for pigs, poultry, tools, etc., well arranged; the bees humming endless music in their long row behind the house; the garden, the fields, the forest; these, together with the coming and going of herds, the steady progress of various kinds of work, the un- wasteful abundance of provisions, which in cities are doled out in close measure; eggs fresh every day, sweet milk oppressed with cream, all manner of fruits in their season, and above all, vegetables fresh from the garden, whose true flavor is unknown in cities,—no wonder that a farm excites the imagination, and raises up a picture of delight and enjoyment. Speaking of vegetables, it may be cruel to say to people in the city that they have no idea of the flavor of *peas* or of *corn*; not unless they remember how they used to taste when they lived in the country.

They must be eaten alive or they are poor luxuries. They should be plucked only long enough to be shelled or shredded for cooking. Then, in the sultry days of July and August, as the great tureen comes steaming with the one, and the huge platter smoking with pyramids of the other, who cares for meats, or for all costly confections? Peas alone are a feast; and sweet corn, in its various methods, on the cob, cut off and mixed with cream, or raised into the ineffable glory of *succotash*,—is a banquet, which would have made all the gods forget ambrosia and nectar, and stroke their beards with celestial satisfaction.

But this is a mere episode. To visit a farm, as good company, to have horses at your disposal, to sit in the shade and hear the hens cackle for eggs laid, and *cau-cau-cau* for contentment; to watch the workmen at their task,—all this is quite charming. But to carry on a farm is another thing—quite!

A farm is a vast manufactory. Instead of buildings and machinery, you are to carry on manufacturing operations through the agency of the soil. No laboratory turns out a greater variety of products; none requires for its

highest success more knowledge, skill, and business tact. If a chemist were obliged to evolve his various products in such a way as at the same time to build his houses, create his furnaces and implements, his task would be like the farmer's; who, while raising crops, is also bringing up the condition of his ground, and fitting it for its best functions.

It is not difficult for a man to raise good crops, if he has money enough. A rich man can walk out of the city upon a poor farm, and in one year put ten thousand dollars worth of expense upon it. He can make a soil, if he has money enough. But wheat that sells for a dollar a bushel, will cost at least three; and corn for seventy-five cents, will have cost two dollars. It is not hard to get good crops if profit is of no account. A rich man plays with a farm as children do with babies, dressing it up to suit his fancy, and quite indifferent to expense or profit. It is his fancy and not his pocket that he farms for. Such men are not useless. They employ many hands. They try a great many experiments which working farmers cannot afford to try. They show what can be done. And American farmers, although they will not imitate, will do better than that; they will take hints in this thing and that, and by the gradual improvement they will raise their own style of farming many degrees. Every township ought to have one gentleman farmer who aims to show what soil can be made to do. In his case it may not be remunerative. But, take the country throughout, the indirect effect will be very remunerative. His very mistakes will be useful. A mistake is often more instructive than a success. But it is not everybody who can afford so dear a schoolmaster.

But even with a pocket full of money, and with a farm as a mere play ground, a rich man may carry on very foolishly. A careless, scheming foreman, may waste vast sums of money without producing one useful result, either to his employer or to the community. Indeed, we scarce know of any other sponge that will suck, in so short a time, so vast a quantity of money, as a farm recklessly carried on! But unlike a sponge, no squeezing will give back the precious contents. Buildings in bad taste and wrongly placed; trees planted by the thousand, and dying almost as fast as planted; the grounds drained at great expense so as to require draining again in two or three years; costly cattle and sheep bought and then neglected; experiments begun with great outlay, tired of, and given up before half completed;—these and such like things are follies which have scarcely any compensating side.

Carp River Country.

Mr. Warren Isham, who has been one of the surveying party locating the Marquette and Little Bay de Noquet State road, thus describes the country in the vicinity of Carp and Marquette rivers:

"It is a good farming country, and there are many locations which are highly attractive, rising by gradual ascent to the handsome plateau. The whole country is watered with frequent small streams. The timber on the upland is principally hard maple, black birch and hemlock, with scattering pines.—There are no pineries properly so called, but what pines there are, are generally large, tall and straight. There are just cedar swamps enough to furnish rail timber, posts, &c., for the upland farms, and then there are tamarack swamps with balsam and spruce intermixed.

Here is an inviting field to the farmer, presenting far greater attractions than the richest prairies of the West, thrown as they are many hundreds of miles away from a market for the products of the soil. Here there will always be a market for all the farmer can raise, at prices from thirty-three to fifty per cent. higher than prevail below, for there is no prospect that the supply will ever come up to the demand, so greatly does the mining interest predominate. The cost of transportation, and the profit of the retailers, are equivalent to a protective tariff. The soil is quite productive, and will yield any kind of crop which can be raised in Lower Michigan. And then the climate is so congenial, the atmosphere so pure and bracing, so free from malaria, one would think there would be a gene-

ral stampede of agriculturists to this favored region, rather than stay below to grapple with the ague and get wrestled down, coming out of the struggle but the merest wrecks of what they were. And as to the winters here, which are such a bugbear, allow us to say from experience and observation, that there are no better winters on the globe, than are to be found on this same Lake Superior—none where the cold is less severely felt, and none where every element of enjoyment is found in richer abundance.

But to return, I may add that, although our party were so much exposed, most of us generally having our boots full of water (cold as spring water) from morning till night, and being often thoroughly drenched pretty well up to our necks, and although we slept upon the wet ground, not one of us got sick in the whole route, or even caught cold; and, as for ourselves, we can say, that our health has not been as good in ten, if it has been in twenty years."

The Influence of Salt Upon the Growth and Health of Cattle.

The practice of salting stock at regular intervals, of generally about once a week, is maintained by all good farmers. When cattle and other farm stock are allowed to partake of salt at pleasure, it is found that in the season of the year when the grass is making its most luxuriant growth and is the most succulent, the consumption of salt is the greatest. Besides the beneficial effects of salt upon the animal system, its use serves as an important means to call together at stated periods the large herds that are pastured on the prairies and plains. Stock that have been thus treated expect it and are ready to answer at the first call of the herdsman.

Boussingault made some observations concerning the influence of salt upon the fattening of cattle. His experiments show that salt does not exert that beneficial influence on the growth of cattle and the production of flesh which is usually attributed to it.—His experiments extended over a period of thirteen months, and were made upon a number of steers, some of which had their rations salted, while others had not; in other respects they were treated in a precisely similar manner. The results show that the increase in the proportion of flesh does not pay for the salt employed. It is, however, remarked that a saline diet does exert a beneficial effect on the appearance and condition of the animals, for the steers which were deprived of salt for eleven months appeared sluggish and of a languid temperament, their coats being rough, devoid of gloss and partially bare, while those which had been fed with salt were lively, had a fine glossy coat, and were sure to attain a considerably higher price in the market.

From the observations of this distinguished agriculturalist and chemist, although it does not appear that there was an actual cash profit in feeding salt to his steers, yet from the sleek, healthy appearance of those treated to it, it evidently contributed to their health, and we believe nature not only demands but requires it.—*Valley Farmer*.

How to Head the Hessian Fly.

For a good while I have known of a better plan to head the Hessian fly in wheat than any you have given in the *Valley Farmer*, but not being in the habit of writing for the press I did not send you an account of it.—But one day, riding through the country, I saw a field nearly destroyed by the fly. I called and told the farmer how to head the Hessian fly. He jumped right up, and exclaimed, "That's it!—why don't you give it to the public? I thought, then, I would, but being a modest man, and not knowing exactly how to begin, I put it off.

The receipt is worth one year's subscription to the *Valley Farmer* and I don't know how much more. I am simply telling the truth. It won't fail. Here it is:

About the middle of August sow a strip of wheat adjoining where you intend to put your crop—say one or two acres. About the middle of September sow your field. When that has come up and shows cloverly, plow under the first sown; turn it under well.—Your fly is headed and your crop is safe?—Will you try it? If you will, you will want to find out the writer.—*ANTI-FLY, in Valley Farmer*.

The Present Condition of American Agriculture.

CONTRIBUTOR OF LONDON FARMER'S MAGAZINE.

Whatever may be the shortcomings of Americans, no one will be likely to charge them with a want of general intelligence. A reference to the statistics of newspaper circulation, book publishing, and common schools, would relieve them from such an unworthy imputation. And yet it may fairly be asked why, with this general diffusion of intelligence, is it that there is so little approach to a scientific course of husbandry? Why are there so few schools and colleges of agriculture in existence? Why do American farmers crop their land with so little judgment, that the average yield of wheat and other cereals in the older States has very rapidly decreased, whilst, during the same time, England has doubled her production? To these interesting queries we can give a ready reply. Until a nation has, by the necessities of its growth, acquired a realization of the fact that its farms cannot be maintained in fertility without a return of plant-food equal to the depletion caused by the removal of crops, we cannot expect to see much attention paid to scientific agriculture. This conviction will come sooner or later, as there is a more or less extensive territory in a condition to be appropriated by those who find their land becoming sterile, and lack the capital to renovate it.

It is useless to urge upon an American farmer the expenditure of sums for drainage, and special manuring, much larger than it would cost him to purchase a new farm and make all his improvements upon it; and hence is it that with a boundless area of land stretching westward, the farmer, driven from his homestead by his own mismanagement, and that of his predecessors, settles upon an unbroken fertile farm, and gives no heed to the man of science. So long as we have a sparse population, and a large area of arable land that can be had in fee for the nominal price of \$1.25 per acre, we may expect a comparatively tardy development of agricultural science. Meanwhile we have agricultural papers with lists of fifty thousand subscribers, and agricultural books are purchased in great numbers, and State Legislatures establish Boards of Agriculture, and societies are formed in every township, and farm implements of wonderful capabilities are invented by hundreds each year, and all things presage a coming good time, when we shall turn some of our national energy into the development of the science of farming.

Has it occurred to you that the invention of improved agricultural implements might, under some circumstances, be a positive national evil, instead of a blessing? We are really suffering from that cause at present, although our farmers do not seem to realize it, and our journals sing the praises of each new and more efficient tool. If Liebig is right, every bushel of corn exported from the farm impoverishes the soil. Now, if we use tools that increase our crops, and we do not manure properly, or use a suitable rotation, we shall soon get the over-taxed farm to the verge of sterility. As the American farmer does not generally manage so as to maintain the fertility of his land, and does use the improved implements, he is actually taking to himself assistants to hasten on the day of his want.

When the peculiarities of our condition are fully understood, you will wonder, not at the little we have, but that we have done so much. We have four agricultural colleges established, two of which are in actual operation, and, besides several others projected, there are professorships of agriculture in different universities.

The first effort to found a college of a distinctly agricultural character was made in 1838, by the late Judge Buel, of New York State, who proposed that the Legislature should make a fitting pecuniary endowment, and, although this was refused, he continued his philanthropic efforts until his death.

The project was again agitated by Dr. Beekman, a former president of the New York State Agricultural Society, by the Hon. Jno. Delafield, and others, until finally in 1856, through the exertions of Col. B. P. Johnson, Secretary of the New York State Society (and known to many of your readers as Commissioner at the World's Fair, in 1851), and his associates, the State Legislature granted the sum of \$40,000 as a loan, without interest, provided the like sum should be raised by individual subscription. This requirement was speedily met; a tract of 680 acres, lying on the shores of Seneca Lake, has been purchased, and an imposing edifice in stone is now in process of erection.

The young State of Michigan, with great foresight, has come forward, appropriated a liberal sum, and actually erected and put into successful operation a College of Agriculture,

while the older States were debating the pros and cons in the matter of their own need for such institutions. The first act was framed in the State Legislature in 1850. In 1855 a bill was passed for the purchase of land, and in 1857, by an amended act, the sum of \$55,000 was granted to defray preliminary expenses and \$40,000 for the current expenses for the ensuing two years. A tract of 676 acres was purchased in the vicinity of Lansing, the State Capital, the college buildings were erected, and in May, 1857, in the presence of the Governor and other State dignitaries, they were formally dedicated. The corps of professors had previously been organized, and the first class opened with sixty-one scholars.

In 1855, the President and officers of the Pennsylvania State Agricultural Society decided to appropriate the accumulated moneys in their treasury to the establishment of an agricultural college and experimental farm. An act of incorporation was procured from the State Legislature; and donations received from various citizens in money, and from General James Irvin in land, placed the project in a prosperous condition. A recent legislative appropriation of \$50,000 has been procured, one half of which sum is contingent upon the subscription of an equal portion by private individuals. The trustees have erected some of the necessary buildings, the school edifice being designed to accommodate three hundred pupils, and active operations on the farm have been carried on for two years past.

The State of Maryland passed, a little more than two years since, an act appropriating the sum of \$6,000 as a perpetual annual contribution towards the maintenance of an agricultural college, but conditionally upon the subscription of the sum of \$50,000 by individuals. A farm of some 450 acres has been purchased near Bladensburg, in Prince George's county, and preparations for the erection of the necessary buildings are in active progress.

The soil of the farm is of such a diversified character as will afford ample opportunities for experiments with various crops. For this, as well as for all the other colleges, importations will be made of animals representing the different improved breeds of cattle, sheep, and swine, and a museum of implements and products of all nations will in due course of time be founded.

At Cleveland, Ohio, an agricultural college has been in existence for a few years past, but it has met with little support, and is in a languishing condition.

In 1855, the State of South Carolina made an appropriation of \$5,000, to be expended annually in experiments with seeds, plants, and cuttings, principally received from the agricultural branch of the United States Patent Office.

An excellent institution has been founded at College Hill, near Cincinnati, Ohio, in which a regular course of general instruction is combined with a thorough practical and theoretical education in agriculture. The name "Farmer's College" has been adopted; it gains its support from a fund of \$100,000, created by the sale of scholarships.

The State of Ohio is about duplicating the experiment of an agricultural colony for the reformation of vagrant boys, which has met with such success at Mettry, France, and confident hopes are entertained of a good result.

For ten years past an annual course of thirty lectures on agricultural science has been given in Yale College. The plan was originated by the late Professor J. P. Norton, for some time associated with your Professor, J. F. W. Johnston, and has subsequently been maintained by Professors J. A. Porter and Samuel W. Johnson. Professor Norton, at one time, attempted to give a special course of laboratory practice, but met with so little support as to be led to discontinue it.

In Massachusetts there is a State Reform School for vagrant boys, at which experiments in the cultivation of crops, the breeding of animals, and other departments of farm economy are made under the direction of the State Board of Agriculture.

(Concluded next week.)

Wool in Lapeer County.

Mr. John R. Hammond, of Elba, sheared from forty-five sheep, three hundred and fifteen pounds of the best grade of wool. About one-third of the above sheep are yearlings.

ANOTHER.—Messrs. E. J. & P. White, from a flock of 375 sheep, sheared 2,290 pounds, an average of six pounds per head, and wool of the first quality. This from so large a flock can't well be beat. If it can be, we shall be glad to chronicle it. Lapeer County is getting to be one of the best wool Counties in the State.—*Republican*.

Michigan Bred Horses—Hints About Crossing.

DEAR SIR:—A recent number of your valuable paper contained the views of a "Michiganian" about the merits of the thoroughbred horse, Stone Plover, now owned in this State, and serving in this county. While there is no doubt of the purity of Stone Plover's blood, I think we have stock here equally as good, and whose family (performing) history is far better on the record. Plover, however, is a very graceful-moving and smoothly-formed animal, and his progeny may greatly improve the old stock of horses in this State.

I will name one or two which, I think, are very superior horses. Captain Buford, bred in Col. Buford's celebrated stables in Kentucky, is owned here, and, I think, has some as good representatives coming upon the stage as any other running horse can boast. He is a thoroughbred, sired by imp. Glencoe, and has made some extraordinary good performances. It would be useless, with the readers of the *Spirit*, for me, to detail the glorious and brilliant history of the Glencoe family. Your able and interesting foreign correspondent, "Censor," in a recent letter, said that the Glencoe was the best blood upon the English Turf; and, if you have watched the result of the Southern tracks thus far this season, I think, you will see the preponderance of merit in favor of Glencoe there.

On page 215 and 216, of Frank Forrester's 2d Vol., you will find some account of the genealogy of the relatives of Kemble Jackson, who is owned by F. E. Eldred, Esq., of this city. He is animated by the Bashaw blood—the blood which, coursing in the veins of Lantern, crowded the matchless Ethan Allen down to 2:24, the other day, in a dead heat! Can anybody want anything better? The family history of Kemble Jackson is creditable in the trotting calendars.—Andrew Jackson, the grandfather, was the most celebrated trotting stallion of his day, and Hiram Woodruff said that Kemble Jackson, his father, was the fastest-going young horse he ever drove, and he has drawn the ribbons over not a very few. Among the honorable names among Kemble Jackson's relatives and ancestors may be mentioned Andrew Jackson, Fanny Kemble, Charles Kemble, Sir Archy, Maria, Gallatin, Wildair, Morton's Traveler, Young Bashaw, Why not, Tripolitan Barb, Grand Bashaw, Lady Moore, Mambrino, Paymaster, Old Mambrino, Imp. Messenger, &c., &c. Our Kemble Jackson is a beautiful mahogany bay, sixteen hands high, star in the forehead, hind feet white half way to the gambrel joint. He was raised by Isaac Aikin, Esq., Pauling, Duchess County, N. Y., (his dam, Lady Moore, half sister to Iola,) and will be five years old on the 14th inst. He is in service for the season, to close July 30th, at the owner's, Spring Brook Farm, adjoining the village of Farmington, in Oakland County, nineteen miles from this city; terms, only \$20 the season.

I enclose this photograph, which will give you a very admirable and perfect view of him. I will send you one of Capt. Buford in a few days.

There is also serving at the same stable on Spring Brook Farm, and by the same owner, a very fine colt, four years old, who is half brother to Miller's Damsel, called Island Jackson.

At the risk of being tedious, I would add a word about breeding racers and trotting horses or roadsters. Many in the spirit of experiment, very often spoil their efforts at improvement by improper crossing. I have been much interested in a late decision on this subject in New England, in which Mr. Sanford Howard, editor of the Boston *Cultivator*, advanced some sound ideas and solid facts, and quoted some excellent authority, besides, against unconsolidated crossing. In my opinion, nine times out of ten the attempt to get a tip-top roadster, or fast trotter, out of a thoroughbred racer, by mingling with acknowledged superior blood, will fail, and *vice versa*. It is against the laws of nature. Kind will produce its kind, and roadsters require a very different form and build from a fleetly racer. For English authority, where the horse has received a great deal of study, I can cite Lawrence's work on the horse, dedicated to the Prince of Wales (1809), where he takes exactly this view.

Mr. Stonehenge, editor of the London *Field*, and author of "British Rural Sports," in 1856, pages 320, 413, 415, 430, and 440 refers to this subject, and notes the superiority of American trotting horses over the English, on account of our system of straight breeding. This is a subject of vast importance, and should be carefully considered by those who are striving to improve the breed of horses for specific purposes.—*DOUBLET*, in *Porter's Spirit of the Times*.

Detroit, June 1th, 1859.

Chess-Playing Excitement.

The achievements of our young countryman, Paul Morphy, in vanquishing the most distinguished chess players of Europe, have excited in our people a very pardonable degree of national pride; hence they have exhibited a strong exultant feeling in welcoming him back to his native land as the Chess Champion of the World. He has been received with high demonstrations in several cities, and public testimonials of great value have been presented to him; while at the same time poets have sung, and sages have delivered orations to his praise. At one of these exhibitions there was a considerable display of "Buncombe," especially at the one held in Boston, where some of our scientific friends rather overdid the thing by their adulations; yet all this might be overlooked if such influences extended no further than the time and place when and where these effusions were uttered. But we regret to state that this is not the case, for a pernicious excitement to learn to play chess has spread all over the country, and numerous clubs for practicing this game have been formed in cities and villages. Why should we regret this? it may be asked. We answer, chess is mere amusement of a very inferior character, which robs the mind of valuable time that might be devoted to nobler acquirements, while at the same time it affords no benefit whatever to the body.

Chess has acquired a high reputation as being a means to discipline the mind, because it requires a strong memory and peculiar powers of combination. It is also generally believed that skill in playing it affords evidence of a superior intellect. These opinions, we believe, are exceedingly erroneous. Napoleon the Great, who had a great passion for playing chess, was often beaten by a rough grocer in St. Helena. Neither Shakespeare, Milton, Newton, nor any of the great ones of the earth, acquired proficiency in chess-playing. Those who have become the most renowned players seem to have been endowed with a peculiar intuitive faculty for making the right moves, while at the same time they seem to have possessed very ordinary faculties for other purposes. A game of chess does not add a single new fact to the mind; it does not excite a single beautiful thought; nor does it serve a single purpose for polishing and improving the nobler faculties.

Persons engaged in sedentary occupations should never practice this cheerless game; they require out-door exercises for recreation—not this sort of mental gladiatorship.—Those who are engaged in mental pursuits should avoid a chess board as they would an adder's nest, because chess misdirects and exhausts their intellectual energies. Rather let them dance, sing, play ball, perform gymnastics, roam in the wood or by the sea shore, than play chess. It is a game which no man who depends on his trade, business or profession can afford to waste time in practicing; it is an amusement—and a very unprofitable one—which the independently wealthy alone can afford time to lose in its pursuit. As there can be no great proficiency in this intricate game without long-continued practice, which demands a great deal of time, no young man who designs to be useful in the world can prosecute it without danger to his best interests. A young gentleman of our acquaintance, who had become a somewhat skillful player, recently pushed the chess-board from him at the end of a game, declaring, "I have wasted too much time upon it already; I cannot afford to do this any longer; this is my last game." We recommend this resolution to all who have been foolishly led away by the present chess-excitement, as skill in this game is neither a useful nor graceful accomplishment.—*Scientific American*.

When Should Grass be Cut?

The answer to this question is very simple; it is this: While it is grass, and not after it has become hay. To make good food for cattle out of grass, the grass must be cut and cured, and not cured and cut. A new and rather thinly-spread piece of timothy will grow coarse stalks, which must be cut while younger than the crop of an old field which was thickly seeded, and has grown thick and fine. The field where the growth is thin we would cut as soon as it blossomed. The field where the stalks grow thick and fine we would allow to stand until the seeds in the butt end of the heads were in the milk, and a portion of them would mature so as to grow after the grass was cut. Other grasses and clover we would cut in full blossom, taking care not to dry it to death after it was cut. We would never mow while the grass was wet with dew or rain; and if cut with a machine, we would not care how soon after

it was cut it was raked into winrows with the horse-rake. If cut with a scythe, turn the swaths over as soon as the top is well wilted, and, after an hour or two of hot sun on the other side, let a man with a thin-pronged fork begin to pitch the swaths together into winrows. If not previously bleached, grass will stand a hard rain in swath or winrow without serious injury. It should always be put in good-sized, well-made cocks before it is dry, and then let it sweat. It may even turn black without injury, but it is preferable not to allow it to reach that stage, for fear acetous fermentation should take place. No matter how green the grass or hay of the cock looks, or how much it smokes from the sweating process when you pitch it on the wagon, if the air is hot and windy, it will dry out so as to keep perfectly in the mow or stack by the time you have pitched and carted and pitched again, and then again in mowing it away. Grass cut at noon may be cocked at 4 o'clock and hauled the next morning and make better hay than it would if cut in the morning, and afterwards spread, and stirred, and raked, and pitched about, and finally cocked in the afternoon, and the cocks opened and shook up again the next afternoon, because they felt a little warm inside, and finally, after getting as dry as tinder and puffy as feathers, hauled away to the barn. In our opinion, there is a foolish fashion of cutting grass "with the dew on," and an unnecessary labor in curing it, and an altogether causeless fear of putting hay in the barn too green. It should be put away in such a condition that it will be green in color when fed out in winter. Take a handful of grass and hang it up in a dry, dark room until cured, and see if you don't think such hay of more value than your sun-dried, colorless stuff.—*Tribune*.

Horse Show at Utica.

Having no one from the Farmer Office to attend the Horse Show at Utica last week, we copy the following awards of premiums from the *Detroit Daily Advertiser*:

Magna Charta, entered by Ezra Wright, of Utica, was awarded the first premium of \$15. Time 2:37.

Second premium to Black Hawk of \$10, entered by W. E. Stearns, Detroit.

The next trial was between trotting stallions 4 years and under, for 1 mile. Robin, entered by L. Sackett, Clinton, was awarded the first prize of \$10. Time 1:47.

Oakland Chief, second premium of \$6, entered by Mr. Waugh, Bloomfield.

Under the class for trotting mares 4 years old and over, for 1 mile, Luke, entered by J. H. Morris, Pontiac, first premium of \$10. Time 3:34.

Rosa, entered by Geo. McStay, Detroit, was awarded the second premium of \$6.

A premium of \$6 was awarded to W. Lambertson, of Utica, for the best trotting mare under four years old.

The next in order was stallions for all work 4 years and over. Premium awarded to Black Hawk Selim, entered by—, Mt. Vernon, of \$15. Second premium to Abo, entered by J. Antisdell, Detroit, of \$10.

Premiums awarded to stallions for all work, 4 years and under.—One entered by E. Swan, Birmingham, \$10, and one entered by L. K. Shaw, of Washington, \$6.

On brood mares 4 years and over, a premium of \$10 to C. A. Green, and to Potts & Hadley \$6.

The premiums on farm horses 5 years and over, were awarded to L. V. Cole, Orion, \$6, and T. Lockwood, Washington, \$4.

On farm horses 5 years and under, to J. R. Hazard, Mt. Vernon.

The premiums on best matched carriage horses, to M. E. Crofoot, Pontiac, \$6, and J. Henderson, Pontiac, \$4.

Best single horse 5 years and over.—1st premium to S. Brownell, Utica, \$6; 2d premium to F. McHurdy, Almont, \$4.

Best single horse under 5 years, premium to W. Swayze, Rochester, \$5.

Best 5 colts by one sire under 3 years, premium of \$25 to E. B. Smith, Mt. Vernon; sire Black Hawk Selim.

The following horses were entered for the sweepstakes of \$25 and \$10:—Pontiac, by M. E. Crofoot, Pontiac; Canada Sam, by Doty, Detroit; J. K. Polk, by White, Detroit. After a very exciting race the judges awarded to Pontiac the purse of \$25, and to Canada Sam that of \$10.

Fine Stock for Sale Low.

Mr. Harness Renick, of Circleville, Ohio, writes us that he still has on hand a good herd, both in numbers and quality, of his fine Shorthorn Stock, which he will sell at all time at low prices. But a part of his stock offered at the public sale on the 15th of June were disposed of, and those wishing to purchase may find it to their advantage to give him a call.

The Garden & Orchard.

An Amateur's Experience With the Cherry.

The writer commenced the cultivation of the cherry, in connexion with that of other fruits, about the year 1847, in his present locality; which at that time was a dense forest. His plan was to devote to this fruit only the yards about his residence, and such lanes as were kept for the purpose of giving access to different portions of the premises.

In pursuance of this plan a large number of trees have been planted, nearly all of which stand upon ground that has never been planted or cultivated in any way, except with the spade and hoe, for the purpose of keeping the ground in a suitable state, immediately about the trees, while they were young.

The soil in which they were mostly planted is a heavy loam with clay subsoil: a few, however, were set in soils varying gradually from the above to a light sandy loam. For several years all grew admirably, and appeared to be alike successful. This state of things continued till the succession of severe winters, commencing with that of 1854 and 1855, which were so fatal to the fruit trees throughout the entire north. On the opening of the spring of 1855, the leaves of the cherry were put forth as usual, and we were congratulating ourselves with the conclusion that no harm had been done, but, on occasional branches, before attaining their proper size, they were brought to a stand; and, in many of the worst cases, they withered away on the approach of hot weather, while, in others, they remained stationary during the entire season.

This process was more general and fatal in the spring of 1856, since which, nothing of this kind has occurred which was not, apparently, traceable to previous injuries.

Another effect of the severity of those winters was the killing of the bark of the exposed side of the trunk, and, in some cases, extending nearly around the tree, and sometimes up to, and including some of the larger limbs. In a few cases the injury was fatal to the tree during the first season, and in nearly all cases it was confined to the sweet varieties. Dukes and Morellos, even when worked on Mazzard stocks have passed the ordeal in safety.

A few cases of bursting of the bark have occurred, in all cases with trees that have been stimulated by manuring or cultivation. This is also mostly confined to the sweet varieties. A tree of Mayduke has been thus affected for five or six years, but appears to experience no injurious effect from it; the bark continuing sound and healthy up to the line of the rupture, which forms a permanent seam, such as is frequently seen in forest trees. With sweet varieties, generally, such attacks have sooner or later proved fatal. One, however, a tree of Downer's Late, which burst about two years since, is now entirely healed, and, apparently, likely to continue sound—the only case of such a result that has come under my observation.

While the trees were quite young, a portion of the fruit buds were occasionally winter-killed; but, more recently, this difficulty has disappeared. Even during the severe seasons before spoken of, the fruit buds were uninjured, and fair crops of fruit were produced the following seasons. Last season the bloom was profuse, but the long, cold storms of May and early June blasted a large portion of the crop when half grown; while the portion that survived was too severely affected to ripen with the usual perfection. The crop of the present season, now nearly gone, has been large, and the quality excellent. The fruit buds passed through the winter safely, while the peach buds, in adjacent rows were all destroyed.

Of the trees planted in sandy loam, and cultivated, more than three-fourths were destroyed or seriously injured. Of those in heavy loam, and cultivated, very few entirely escaped; a few died within two or three years, and several, although injured, are still vigorous and fruitful: while, of those in heavy loam, unplowed and which have stood in grass since they were of bearing age, many are yet entirely sound and healthy. In fact, although these constitute nearly, or quite seven-eighths of the whole number planted, there have been fewer losses among them than among the remaining one-eighth, grown under other circumstances. These trees are, for the most part, highly productive, and the fruit very fine; although there is no doubt but that they would be much improved, in these respects, by cultivation, though at the expense of hardiness.

According to the observations of the writer in his own vicinity, these remarks are equally true of the peach, and perhaps of all other

half-hardy trees; as there are, in his vicinity, on heavy and untilled soils, peach trees that have bloomed profusely the present season, while the general crop of this region is an entire failure.

On the writer's grounds there are about twenty-five varieties of sweet cherries that are, or have been, fully in bearing. Among these there seems to be a decided distinction as respects hardiness, judging from his experience, although the number of trees, or several sorts, is insufficient to enable him to deduce a satisfactory inference in this respect. The following statement, however, may answer the purpose of enabling others to compare their experience with his:

Downer's Late, 8 trees, of which 1 is dead; Bigarreau, 6 trees, of which 1 is badly injured; Bauman's May, 5 trees, of which 2 are dead; Early Purple Guigne, 4 trees, of which 1 is badly injured;

Black Tartarian, 8 trees, of which 6 are dead, and 2 badly injured;

Black Heart, 3 trees, of which all more or less are injured;

Black Eagle, 2 trees, of which 1 is badly injured;

Napoleon, 4 trees, of which 2 are dead, and 2 badly injured;

Sparkhawk's Honey, 4 trees, of which 1 is dead, and 2 badly injured;

China Heart, 2 trees, of which both are badly injured;

Holland Bigarreau (Barry), 4 trees, of which 3 are dead;

Sweet Montmorency, 2 trees, of which both are dead;

Transparent Guigne, 2 trees, of which 1 is slightly injured;

Buttner's Yellow, 3 trees, of which all are badly injured;

Black Mazzard, 2 trees, of which both are sound;

Elton, 2 trees, of which 1 is dead and 1 badly injured;

Elkhorn, 2 trees, of which 1 is slightly injured;

Hildesheim, 2 trees, of which both are badly injured;

It will be seen that the above list comprises sixty-five trees, of which eighteen are dead, and twenty-two are more or less injured. As has been heretofore stated, this fatality, in the writer's grounds, has been less sweeping among the cherries than among peaches and plums; and, if we take into the calculation the Dukes and Morellos, which escaped entirely, the preponderance is largely in favor of the cherry. These latter classes furnish many varieties that are highly desirable, and, indeed, for culinary purposes, almost indispensable. Even as dessert fruits, Reine Hortense and Belle de Choisey are very little, if any, behind the finest of the sweet varieties. One would hardly be content, however, to plant them to the exclusion of the sweet varieties, since to do so would be to limit the season of this fruit from three months to about as many weeks.

The combination of circumstances that produced this destruction of the trees, is not likely to occur again in a lifetime; while the ruined trees can be replaced, and again in bearing, within five or six years. Indeed, so well is the writer satisfied with the result of this trial, so far, that he has, the present season, increased his list of kinds in cultivation, to nearly one hundred varieties; with the purpose of largely increasing his number of trees of this fruit. In doing this he will plant exclusively on heavy soil, thoroughly underdrained, and will aim to form the heads of the trees within two or three feet of the ground; that the trunk may be effectually sheltered from the influence of the sun. He has found the depredations of birds to be, thus far, a greater drawback, if possible, than the winter-killing of the trees, and, as no tiller of the soil should be guilty of bird-slaughter, that man who shall invent some simple and efficient means of holding them at bay, during the cherry season, will deserve, and no doubt receive the thanks of the horticultural world.

Plymouth, July 1st, 1859.

T. T. LYON.

How to Increase the Size of Fruits.

The French cultivators of fruits, resort to all sorts of expedients for the purpose of increasing the size of the fruit which they show at the great exhibitions, and amongst these are some that are practicable even by amateurs who give attention to the trees at the right season. A. Dubreuil, one of the most skillful of these thus relates some of the methods, in the *Annales Horticulture de Gand*:

Grafting the trees on a weak species of Stock.—Fruits, like leaves, have the power of attracting the sap from the roots, and of transforming it into cabium, or organisable matter. But, contrary to that which takes place in the leaves, they employ all the cabium which they thus elaborate for their own nourishment. If the stock on which the tree is worked is naturally possessed of great vigor, the tree will produce numerous long

shoots, which will appropriate the greater portion of the sap, to the detriment of the fruits, which will consequently not attain a large size. They will on the contrary, acquire a larger size if their absorptive power can counterbalance that of the shoots. It is for this reason, that, all other things being equal, the fruit of trees worked on the quince stock is larger than that from trees worked on the pear stock. The same thing takes place with regard to apple trees grafted on the Paradise, as compared with those on the Crab stock.

Subjecting the Trees to a proper mode of Pruning.—This operation, when well performed, has the effect of depriving the trees of a certain portion of their shoots. Hence it follows that a great portion of sap, which would have been absorbed by the parts cut off, goes to increase the fruit.—The object of summer pruning is likewise the complete or partial removal of a large number of shoots by disbudbing and pinching. The operation also contributes to turn the sap to the benefit of the fruit; and under like circumstances, the fruit of well-pruned trees is always larger than that from trees left unpruned.

Operating so that the Bearing Shoots may be as short as possible, and in immediate connection with the main branches.—If the mode of pruning adopted is such that the bearing shoots immediately proceed from the principal branches, the consequence is that the fruit, receiving the sap more directly from the roots, acquires a larger size. In fact, it is seen that fruit growing on the stem is always larger than that situated at the extremities of long, slender branches.

Thinning the Fruits when too numerous.—The quantity of sap, disposable for the growth of the tree, does not increase in proportion to the fruit which it bears. It is, therefore, apparent that the more numerous the fruits, the less the amount which each receives. Hence the utility of thinning, in order that those retained may be better nourished and become larger. The proper time for performing this operation is when the fruits are fully set.

Shortening the principal branches.—If the length of the principal branches is to a certain extent diminished by shortening them at the winter pruning, a result analogous to that produced by ordinary pruning will follow; but the effect on the fruit is much more intense, because the action of the sap is confined within narrower limits. It is, however, important to check in summer the vigorous shoots, of which a great number will be sure to make their appearance, otherwise they would absorb a large amount of sap, to the detriment of the fruit.

Supporting the Fruits so that their weight may not cause a strain upon the Footstalk.—The sap from the roots enters the fruit by means of vessels passing along the footstalk, and which ramify to an infinite extent throughout the cellular mass. Bulky fruits, such as pears and apples, soon attain such a weight that they exert a strain on their footstalks, which by tightening the woody fibres and vessels, tends to collapse them. The tissues of the stalk being thus compressed, the passage of fluids is, to some extent, obstructed in that part. Moreover, if fruits are attached to a branch having a more or less vertical direction, their gravity will cause a bending of the stalk, and will thus still further obstruct the passage of the sap. Again, it often happens that the fruit does not make an equal growth on both sides of its longitudinal axis, and a twisting of the stalk and strangling of the vessels takes place, in consequence of which the circulation is partially intercepted. Now, if a support is placed beneath the fruit so as to prevent these effects on the stalk, it is very evident that the sap will flow in much greater abundance into the fruit, which will then become larger. This is the reason why those fruits which accidentally rest on branches or trellises are always of greater size than the rest.

Dried Pie Plant.

The art of preserving fruits has reached such perfection that in the middle of winter we can regale ourselves (if the expense is not regarded) with the delicate flavors of the most perishable fruits of summer. To accomplish this, hermetically sealed cans and other expensive methods are required; the cost, of course, not being considered, so long as the producer can get "his own price" in the market. Such luxuries are for those who can afford them; but, thanks to the bounties of nature, gastronomic enjoyments are not confined within the limited space of ample means, and fruits preserved by the simple process of drying are as good in their way as those are for which closely sealed cans are employed.

PIE PLANT OR RHUBARB, as we have said in former years, should be one of the fruits thus preserved. You dry them in just the

same manner that you do apples or peaches, on a string, or spread on boards, exposed to the sun. Cut the stalks while they are young and crisp; remove the skin, and cut into pieces about two inches in length and run them on a string like dried apples. This is a better way to dry them than spreading on a board, for it is cleaner.

We have lately seen it stated that the Victoria rhubarb was the best variety for this purpose. It is undoubtedly excellent, but only superior to other varieties of less acid qualities. The higher the acid the better the variety for drying, provided it be tender. As soon as it becomes tough and the woody fibre formed, it should not be used. Some varieties are remarkable for remaining tender, even when quite old; if possible obtain these, and the stronger the acid the better.

When it is to be used, let it soak over night, and in the morning it will be ready to be treated as if it were just fresh from the garden. It loses none of its flavor by drying, but shrinks to almost nothing in size.

You can depend on always finding a ready sale for this article in market.

Speaking of marketing rhubarb, reminds us of something we may neglect to speak of in its proper season, and that is drying whortleberries. They will always command a good price in market, and the boys can employ themselves in collecting and drying them to the advantage of their pockets. We hope they will try it.—*Homestead.*

HORTICULTURAL NOTES.

How to Manage a Flower Garden.

"Let it be a law," says D. Beaton, in the *Cottage Gardener*, "that whatever needs to be done in the flower garden, ought to be set about late in the autumn, and be finished by frosts, so that all spring flowers may be well got in. Then as soon as convenient remove the spring flowers when done blooming, and not put it off till the plants to be bedded out take up all the attention of the amateur, with the hurry of watering, shading and caring for them which takes up nearly all the time."

Those who go to work systematically will have rough plans of their gardens made for the first and second years on a large scale, and every bed numbered on them the same, as well as every plant or cluster of plants in every border. This will enable them to arrange the colors, the heights, the style of growth of the plants that they have already set out, with that of more it is determined to purchase, and plant out, and will be found a very great assistance in determining what selections to make, and what shall be used, in suitable positions, and also saves time and guards against disappointment.

The Magnet Verbena.

We notice that this new variety of the Verbena is advertised by the London gardeners. It is described as a most vivid scarlet in color, with a lemon colored eye, which gives it a very striking appearance over all other scarlets. The pipe is as round, large and good a substance as those of the most beautiful Phloxes. The truss is of immense size, many of them being nearly nine inches in circumference last season. It is a prolific bloomer. It never fades in the hottest sun, and is a superb variety for pot culture, and is considered the finest scarlet Verbena ever grown, throwing the best varieties into the shade. We hope our friends Adair and the Messrs. Hubbard & Davis will give us an opportunity of seeing this new variety in all its glory here.

Aloes for House Plants.

We note that aloes are highly recommended as an insect destroyer by some good florists. Use is made of them by soaking a pound of Barbadoes aloes in two quarts of hot water, then add cold water to make up the solution to six gallons. With this plants may be syringed, or small ones may be dipped in it, leaving them to stand for a day or two before syringing them again with pure water. The solution is also recommended as useful for fruit trees.

Endives.

We have not unfrequently called attention to this excellent salad plant. It is difficult to get lettuce, the best of all green salad plants, to head well in hot weather, but this plant seems to delight in the most wilting heat, and never does so well as when the hot weather draws the lettuce up to seed without its forming a sign of a head. Sow about this time to the first of August, and transplant as soon as the plants are large enough.—When as large as dinner-plates, gather the leaves together in warm, dry weather, and tie a string around them. They will bleach in a few days.—*Homestead.*

Fine Yellow Roses.

A new rose called the Isabella Gray, has created quite a discussion amongst the amateurs and professional growers of Great Britain by its beauty when chancing to grow under favorable circumstances and its failure under like circumstances, as far as the growers knew. It now seems that as a general rule for guidance in the culture of the fairer sorts of the yellow roses, four things are demanded: 1st, A warm rich soil; 2d, A southern exposure; 3d, Time to mature; 4th, protection from the pruning knife.

An Insect Liqueur.

A writer in the *Cottage Gardener* uses a liquid for destroying insects on plants made by soaking a pound of Barbadoes aloes in two quarts of hot water; this is then made six gallons by the addition of cold water. For melons and vines, this mixture would seem to be an admirable preparation and worth a trial.

Beans.

The late frosts have tried the gardens, and the patience of the gardeners. The first frost generally cut beans so as to stop their growth but not entirely kill the plant, and many persons thought

that they were not injured so but that their growth would be quicker for ripening purposes than to replant, but this was a mistake. When the frost is severe enough to destroy the leaf and pinch the stem, the growth of the bean plant is stopped and, the after growth is sickly and feeble and the crop diminished in quantity, and inferior in quality.

Azaleas and Camellias.

The right time to report Azaleas and Camellias is when fresh growth is taking place freely after blooming. After repotting, these plants should be kept in the shade, until the roots get at work freely in the new soil.

Blackberry Wine.

FROM THE VALLEY FARMER.

It has long been a mooted question whether the people of this country can make their own wine. I am satisfied that almost every farmer, as well as a great many persons who are not farmers, can make a plentiful supply of good wine for their own use this coming summer, at a trifling expense, if they will make an effort to do so, from the common Blackberry.

Some persons who have heretofore tasted the sweetened composition which has been offered them by old ladies, under the name of blackberry wine, will perhaps smile at this suggestion, but if they will take the trouble to make an experiment or two in the manner I am about to relate, they will find that wine can be made from blackberries; and that while we have been searching all over the world for grapes that can be naturalized, with the view to supply ourselves with that very desirable beverage, a fruit which grows plentifully at our doors, and which is admirably adapted for that purpose, has been entirely overlooked.

When the berries are ripe they should be rubbed between the hands or with a wooden masher in some suitable vessel, until the cells, containing the juice, are thoroughly broken. They should then be placed in a tub—one that is deep and of not very great diameter is probably the most suitable—and to each gallon of berries add from one to two pounds of sugar. After mixing the berries and the sugar, add for each gallon of berries one quart of boiling water. They should then be kept in the tub about twenty-four hours. The heat imparted by the boiling water will cause a fermenting process to start immediately, without the assistance of yeast or any other ingredient. The liquid should be occasionally stirred, and the seeds and skins, most of which will rise to the surface, should be skimmed off. At the end of twenty-four hours the juice should run into a cask. Whatever remains of the seeds and skins may be strained through a cloth. When the cask is filled, it should be placed in a cellar or some cool place with the bung-hole open. Some of the juice should be kept in a convenient vessel, that it may be added every day to the liquid in the cask, to keep the cask constantly full, so as to allow the scum to pass off. When the fermentation has progressed sufficiently, which will be in a week or ten days, the cask may be bunged up tight and treated as other wine.

Common brown sugar of fair quality will answer very well. The quantity of sugar should be graduated according to the body which it is desired to impart to the wine. I have now some wine, made in this way last summer, in five gallon demijohns, with 2 lbs. of sugar to the gallon, and which has never been bottled, but used as it was required from the demijohn, which is entirely free from acidity, and is really an excellent wine of good body and flavor. Not a drop of alcoholic spirits or of anything whatever has been added to it after the process above mentioned.

I had some other wine, made in the same way, but with a less quantity of sugar, which strongly resembled claret; but was much better than any of the ordinary French claret to be obtained in this country. I think it very probable that, by varying the process—adding more or less sugar, more or less boiling water, and permitting the fermentation to progress for a longer or shorter period—wine of various qualities may be obtained.

From each gallon of berries treated in the above way, about one gallon of wine is obtained. The cost of gathering the berries will not average more than ten cents, and the cost of the sugar will be from eight to sixteen cents according to the quality used.—Here then is wine that will not cost more than twenty-five cents to the gallon, and in the country, where the children will pick most of the berries, the real outlay will not be more than from eight to sixteen cents.—What then is to prevent the farmers from having their own table wine, and plenty of it?

That the juice of the blackberry contains all the essential requisites for making a good wine, is absolutely certain. That a very superior wine may be made from it by proper treatment is quite probable. T. L. S.

New Albany, Ind., May 1, 1859.

FOREIGN AGRICULTURE.

An English Cheese Making Farm.

FROM THE LONDON AGRICULTURAL GAZETTE.

From none of the lines of railway by which we have traversed Cheshire do you receive a just impression either of the fertility or farm management of the best parts of the county. You pass too often by the rough and broken fences, which Mr. Mechi describes as stretching away unaffected by a good example from the trim and tidy hedges of the railway: you traverse rough and poached pastures, with weedy ponds in their midst fringed by neglected shrubbery, and lines of rushes marking the parallel furrows between the ridges. But this is not the universal nor even the general character of the land. On many large estates, and on many scattered farms throughout the county, you will find well fenced pasture fields containing a bulkier produce now of grass, which if coarser than you see elsewhere is more genuine—less made up of weeds—and as nutritious—capable of maintaining probably a larger herd of stock than any other in the country. You will find these farms more generally provided with a considerable portion of arable land than is generally seen in other dairy districts, that of Gloucestershire, for instance, and this is generally better cultivated and presents just now, so far as during the past week we have seen it, as good a promise of its crops, especially Wheat, and Oats, and Potatoes, as any that we have anywhere observed. The Cheshire farmer is thus enabled more economically to manage his farm horses, which have work provided for them pretty evenly throughout the year. He is also able more satisfactorily than most dairy farmers can, at least in the corresponding districts of Gloucestershire and Somersetshire, to feed his cows economically and well throughout the winter.

Let us by way of a specimen of good Cheshire dairy farming describe the management and land of Mr. W. Palin, who is well known as a public-spirited and intellectual agriculturist beyond the limits of his county. Stapleford Hall stands near the village of Tarvin, about six miles east of Chester. The farm lies partly on the sand and partly on the clay of the new red sandstone formation. Of its 250 acres 60 are arable. A herd of 52 cows are milked, and the other stock besides pigs consists of a flock of 60 or 80 wether sheep, and 40 or 50 ewes with lambs, bought in and sold fat every year, and 15 or 20 calves, with a similar number of yearlings, and of two and three year-old heifers, which are partly introduced into the herd as they come into milk and partly sold. Mr. Palin suffered from the pleuropneumonia several years ago, and also from the "hask" amongst the young calves, having last year lost 18 from that complaint, and he has not yet regained his full strength of herd—as he dares not yet replenish it by direct purchase at the fairs—and must therefore recover it gradually. The cows are now in full milk, the earliest calving having been nearly seven weeks at grass, and nearly the whole being now at the pail.

The dairy management is as follows:—The cows are milked at night and the milk is poured into tin pans on the floor of the milk-house. This milk is skimmed in the morning, and then poured into the large tub where the curd is "set." As the morning's milking proceeds, the pails full are brought one after another and poured into this tub. A pan of milk is warmed in a boiler in the dairy, and when sufficiently hot the cream just then from the evening's milk is mixed with it, and the whole thus warmed is poured at last into the tub which thus contains the whole milk, cream and all, of both "meals." The coloring matter, "annatto," apparently about a gill, is added to the 100 or 120 gallons which may be then in the tub as the produce of 48 to 50 cows—a half handful of saltpetre is thrown in with the view of correcting the bitterness which is to be detected while the Butter-cups are in full leaf; and the rennet, about a pint of brine in which two or three little bits of the prepared vells or "bag skins" have been steeped over night is added to the milk, which is then left for an hour covered up till the curd is fully formed. It is then cut slowly with a wire and curd breaker, and the curd sinking, they whey is bailed out; the curd is collected and squeezed both by hand and by the direct pressure of a weight above a board placed upon it, and the last of the whey being removed it is lifted into one of the large Cheshire cheese vats pierced with holes for the further escape of fluid—the lower part being a wooden cylindrical vat, and the upper a tinned cylinder slipping into it as the curd on pressure sinks. After a certain pressure in this form the curd is removed and cut and broken by hand, and from 1 to 2 lbs. of fine salt is scattered over

it, and the whole rebroken and refilled into the vat, into which a cheese cloth has previously been placed. There it remains for the day—yielding somewhat to the pressure of its own weight. It is then put gradually under pressure, which on the second or third day amounts to nearly a ton weight upon each cheese.

Every day the cheese is turned and wrapped in fresh cloths, and on the seventh or eighth day of this treatment, or as soon as dry, it is removed to the loft and there swathed around with strong girthing, placed on a bench. By and bye it is laid, still swathed as before, on a layer of straw on the floor of the room, and there it lies till from 10 weeks to four months old, when it is ready for sale.

This is pretty generally the history of a Cheshire cheese. In some dairies, in order to the perfect extraction of the whey, skewers are used to pierce it, being thrust repeatedly into it through the holes in the cheese vat, in order to the formation of drains for the liquid. The whey is heated in a boiler, and throws up a cream, called "floatings," which is skimmed twice, the first yielding a very good butter, and the latter a substance used principally for feeding calves; the whey is afterwards given to the pigs. Excepting a portion of the cream from the milk used in the house, and that which thus comes from the whey, the Cheshire cheese is a whole-milk cheese, and as rich, therefore, as any that is made.

The breed of cows is essentially short-horn, though possessed of no record of pedigree. They are large framed, well made animals, white, roan, and red. The pastures, some of the best we have seen, are on the clay and marly part of the farm, owing their quality to their original fertility, to drainage, and to boning. The last application at the rate of a ton to 30 cwt. per acre has been effected, most of it, many years ago, to the permanent improvement of the land. In more recent instances it had been used with perfect success on rough and sour portions of fields, making them yield sweet and palatable food, so that the patches formerly avoided are now eaten most readily. It is over the pastures on these marly soils that bone-dust has exerted its wonderful effect on the quantity and quality of the annual produce.

The arable land on Mr. Palin's farm is for the most part on the sandier portion of its subsoil. The rotation adopted is—1st, Oats on "lea" fallow; 2d, Wheat; 3d, green crop, Turnips, Mangel Wurzel, or Potatoes; 4th, Barley or Oats laid down with Clovers and other Grass seeds for three or four years, when it is usually broken up again, and the same process gone through. It is a tolerably easily worked soil, and every field bears rich promise of a crop.

A considerable portion of the arable land is devoted to the growth of early Potatoes and of seeds. The Potatoes are grown on the so-called lazybed system, one of the best methods existing for the growth of early Potatoes on a large scale. The ridges are about 4 feet wide, and the Potatoes being dibbled in rows across them are covered over, on coming through, with the earth taken deeply from the furrows. As fast as the Potatoes are removed, towards the end of June, selected Mangel plants or Swedish Turnip plants are dibbled in their places. Thirty-five tons per acre of Mangels have been thus grown as a transplanted crop. These are harvested in the usual way, and roots again selected in February are transplanted for the crop of seed. The Mangels are now shooting up their leaves and stems, the Swedish Turnips are in full bloom, and a magnificent promise of both is offered.

The seed growing has itself been a gradual growth, and is an instance of the kind which the Rev. Mr. Berkeley has more than once recommended in our columns, in which a devotion to this department of cultivation by a well known and trustworthy man has proved, as he alleged, the existence of an increasing demand (although at higher prices) for seed grown from carefully selected roots.

The reference to this part of Mr. Palin's management is however beside our present object, which is to present a picture of a well managed Cheshire farm. We ought to add as to the herd of cows, that being gradually brought in towards winter, as the yield of milk ceases, they are fed in stalls, first on Mangel Wurzel leaves, then on the Turnip tops, and then successively on Turnips, Swedes, and Mangel Wurzel (the last of which has just disappeared), along with cut straw and hay chaff. They thus come to their calving in fair condition and receive then a full allowance of hay until ready to be turned out to Grass.

A reference of this kind to Cheshire farming would be incomplete without mentioning the condition of the laborers. They are better off in Mr. Palin's neighborhood than anywhere we know—receiving 10s. (\$2 50) a

week during nine months of the year, and 2s. (50c) a day during the rest, together with all their food during the corn harvest weeks; they also have cheap cottages of abundant room. Those on Mr. Palin's farm lot at 1s. (25c) a week, though containing four rooms and outhouses, including cowhouse and loft, and pigsty in the garden. Most of them have also a Grass paddock of 2 acres or more at an agricultural rent, enabling them to keep a cow and to rear one or two calves. The men are made comfortable in their station without being offered thereby any temptation to leave it. Altogether the immediate neighborhood of Tarvin, so far as it is represented by Stapleford Hall Farm, presents as satisfactory a picture of agricultural prosperity in all classes as any county in the kingdom can present.

Sorgho as Forage.

The following article on Sorgho we find translated from the *French Journal of Agriculture*, into the *London Farmer's Magazine*. Will some of our readers take note of the effect of this crop as forage for their stock, and let us know if it operates in the same way in this country.

"When in your columns, Mr. Editor, you opened an enquiry respecting the qualities of the sugar sorgho of China as a forage plant, you ought to have received the observations of one of the oldest contributors of the *Journal of Practical Agriculture*, when to that title was united that of being one of the first introducers of the sorgho.

"On principle, and in quality of member of the Imperial Zoological Society of Acclimatization, I have shared in the distribution of seeds sent to the Society by M. de Montigny. These seeds have ripened with me from the first year of their introduction. I cite a fact, not to profit by it, for our latitude (47° 36m) will not permit us to expect a fructification, constant, regular, and normal, but to let you see that my experiments have from the first continued uninterrupted. A cultivator in Sologne, seeking improvements, I have directed my attention to the sorgho, and its power of vegetation, to call it to my aid as a forage plant; at the same time divesting myself of all preconceived ideas, whether enthusiastic or disparaging. I shall not, therefore, touch the question but to throw light upon honest researches. I will not seek in the new plant a universal panacea for cattle, or a dangerous poison; but to excite a renewed examination. I will confess that the abundance of forage has won me as it has done others; but with certain facts before me, duly stated, I stopped and reflected. Perhaps in the absence of regular accounts we might have deceived ourselves; but with the figures before us, we can come to no other conclusion; at the same time requesting the practitioners to renew their experiments carefully.

"The sorgho is not a violent poison for cattle; but if the effects observed, not only in my cultivation, but also in that of many of my neighbors, be frequently renewed, we ought necessarily to attribute to this plant a deleterious influence. On a farm which I occupy myself, 25 horned cattle have been fed exclusively on sorgho during a month; and from the precise day on which it was introduced in feeding the cattle, the journal of the farm shows a diminution of the profit of the dairy by one-half, and the same decrease was exhibited every month of feeding with sorgho.

"On the other hand, there was, in respect to one of the cows, a case of wind, that caused its death. Any other kind of food might have produced a similar accident; but what many of my neighbors have asserted is, the sterility of the cows fed on sorgho. If these two facts, sterility on the one hand and a diminution of half in the production of milk on the other, repeated regularly in consequence of feeding the cows on sorgho, be corroborated we must conclude from them that this plant is injurious; since it hinders or diminishes all kinds of production by interfering with the secretions, which must necessarily provoke a perturbation in the animal organism; all morbid causes having their origin in suppressions of this nature.

"I know that no improvement of the soil is possible without an abundance of green food; and their production regularly successive by a course of cropping, is not always an easy matter. I should therefore regret being obliged to abandon the sorgho. The desire of preserving for a plant so luxuriant, a place in the production of green food, and also, on the other hand, the fear of introducing into the midst of our cultivated plants a dangerous auxiliary, ought to operate as a doubly powerful motive for prudently and honestly renewing the experiments.

MARQUE DE VIBRAVE.

The *Prairie Farmer* offers a premium of twenty-five dollars to the boy under 16 years of age who shall raise the best and largest crop of ruta bagas or flat turnips from one acre of ground cultivated by himself. Open to competition from any state in the Union.

FARM MISCELLANEA.

Influence of Soil on Chickens.

We believe that cattle which once were kept only on certain soils are now successfully installed everywhere; because, their requirements being known, artificial means are used to supply admitted natural deficiencies, and some such knowledge may be advantageously used among poultry.

Certain breeds, as Cochins and Brahmas, will live in spite of hard fare and easterly winds; while others, as Dorkings and Spanish, require help. We will, therefore, give the result of some experiments we have tried.

Cochins and Spanish were hatched on the same day in January, and fed alike. We knew the same treatment seldom succeeded with both; but would give it a fair trial.—The Cochins nearly all alive; the Spanish died. At another place, Brahmas and Dorkings were hatched—the Brahmas lived; the Dorkings died. All these had to rough it, and had no indulgence.

In February we hatched again. Then we gave extra care to the Spanish and Dorkings; they did as well, and grew as heartily as the Cochins and Brahmas.

In all these sittings the chickens came out strong. They gradually fell off day by day. The first began to die at the end of a week, and in three weeks none were left.

In the February broods that succeeded, the chickens, besides their usual feeding, had bread and ale three times per day. With this assistance they never flag; but remain hearty, and busy seeking their food all day.

Our experience is, that on certain soils chickens want stimulants for the first two or three weeks. It is during this time the seeds of disease and weakness are sown that afterwards result in death and disappointment.—We cannot speak as to the soil that suits certain breeds; but we rear Dorkings most successfully on a stiff clay.

We are sure if our readers will adopt our plan, and provide their chickens with bread and beer for the first three weeks of their lives, we shall hear fewer complaints of their dying, and shall not be asked so often what is to be done to keep them in health.—*Cottage Gardener.*

Naked Fallows.

"He plows once in six years, and lets the land lie fallow one year, that it may have the full advantage of the summer sun and the winter frost." The full advantage of just such a want of thought as we have been writing of in the section preceding this. Expose land to the full advantage of the summer sun! What for? What is the object? What is accomplished by the process? The land is drenched and washed upon the naked furrows, and some of the lightest portion takes its course toward the ocean's depth, never to return, except in costly guano, sea-weed, or fish manures; and it is baked and burnt and dried in the sun, and its volatile properties set loose to float away upon the wings of the wind to enrich the growing crops of some farmer who commits the great error of exposing his soil to waste in naked fallow.—There is one kind of land that is benefitted by exposing in naked fallow to the action of frost—it is a stiff clay. But even here there is a better way to ameliorate that. It is by aeration through tile drains, and the furrow of the sub-soil plow. We doubt whether fall plowing can be advocated, in itself, as a good system of farming. It is only a resort of necessity, to help along the work of spring, upon land not underdrained, which remains too wet to plow, long after the frost has left it loose enough, but so wet that it would be injurious to disturb it. As a general rule, we do not believe that land in good tillable order was ever improved by a naked fallow. If it is to be left one year without a productive or salable crop, how much more sensible to sow the fallow-plowing with any sort of grass or grain, even buckwheat, or with turnips, but far better with clover, and let the crop grow and fall down, shading, mulching, manuring, and really improving the soil. The man who practices in the manner quoted in the text of this item is spoken of as a "man of facts." What facts has he, or his biographer, or anybody else to prove that naked fallows are more beneficial to lands than green fallows? We should like to know.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

The American Horses in England.

We have omitted for several months any allusion to the American Horses, which our spirited countrymen Messrs. Ten Broeck and Harlan have taken to England to measure paces with the horses of the English turf, for the reason that nothing of moment had transpired in relation to them since their arrival in that country. Mr. Harlan was quietly waiting the recruiting of his horses from the effects of their long voyage and change of climate, and Mr. Ten Broeck was making preparation for an active contest when the racing season should fairly set in.

The late mails from Europe contain some

items of interest concerning these representatives of the thoroughbred horse in this country.

On Monday, May 9, Mr. Ten Broeck's mare Priora won the Queen's plate of 100 guineas, carrying 140 lbs. and beating the prominent horse Polestar by fifteen lengths; distance 3 miles, 4 furlongs and 139 yards. Mr. Harlan's horses Cincinnati and Lincoln ran at New Market rather for the purpose of showing them than with an expectation of winning, as they carried the highest weights and were not in condition.

Mr. Harlan's trotting horse Jack Rossiter attracts considerable notice. He is a nervous, excitable old veteran, and we doubt whether he will make any very fast trotting for his new owner.—*Vermont Stock Journal.*

The Way Farmers Help Themselves.

The Connecticut *Homestead* noticing an appropriation lately made by the Legislature of that state to aid the society, says:

"An appropriation of six hundred dollars has been made by this body to print the report of Prof. Johnson, chemist to the State Agricultural society. The vote stood one hundred and eleven in favor, and ninety-seven in opposition to this measure. Of the farmers who voted in the House, fifty-three were in the affirmative, and fifty-six in the negative. We notice, in our analysis of this vote, that there were many towns misrepresented by the men who voted on this measure; and we trust that the support and encouragement of the agricultural interests of the State may be made a distinct test in the next election. We do not mean that there shall be an agricultural party, but we do mean that the active men of both and all parties—the men who are in favor of suitably encouraging agriculture, and these men are the men of weight and consideration in every town—shall insist that no man shall be elected as representative who will not obligate himself to go in for all reasonable measures, that may come up for consideration, to promote progress in agriculture."

Had this been an appropriation for a law school or for doctors, or for any other purpose, the *Homestead* would have found the farmers unanimous in its favor. We have had the same sort of experience here.

Frost Bitten Corn.

EDITOR *HOMESTEAD*:—Several papers have recently recommended the clipping of the ends of leaves which have been bitten with frost. My experience long since taught me that a more excellent way is to save such labor and let the corn grow as perfect as it will. The amputation causes a useless and injurious waste of the juice of the leaf. My advice is take good care of your corn, and trust Providence for the result.—*A. C. W. Berlin.*

The writer of the above says, that many years ago he had a patch of a few acres badly frost bitten and by advice of his neighbors commenced clipping off the frosted part; becoming heartily tired of the job he stopped, and the result from the unclipped part of the field was best.—*Conn. Homestead.*

We have heard of a number of farmers who were at the expense of considerable time to clip off the withered portion of the leaves of the corn killed by the late spring frosts. We let the plant grow, and find it as far ahead as though it had been clipped.

To Make Mortar Impervious to Wet.

Provide a square wood trough, say 8 feet by 4 feet by 1 foot 4 inches; put a quantity of fresh lump lime in; add water quickly. When the lime is well boiled, having assisted that operation by frequent stirring, add tar (the heat of the boiling lime melts the tar), stir it well, taking care that every part of the lime is intimately mixed with the tar; then add sharp sand or crushed clinker, and stir it well as before, after which, in about twenty hours, it will be fit for use.

Tar and lime may also be used, in order to make either wood or mason-work water-proof. The best way to prepare gas or coal-tar for coating woodwork with, is to get some of the best stone lime, avoiding chalk lime, and slake it to a fine powder, boil the tar for about half an hour, and then add about one pint of hot lime powder to a gallon of tar, and boil it about half an hour longer, stirring it all the while. Lay it on with a brush while it is hot, and you will find it to set hard, and have a brilliant appearance. It is the best coating for wood-work except lead.—*Builder.*

The Sanilac *Jeffersonian* says "In Speaker township nearly all the wheat on new land is cut down by the frost, and presents the appearance of having been burned over. Alexander Galbraith, we understand, has nearly thirty acres, now in this condition, which before the frost on the 4th inst., promised a heavy yield. We have heard from nearly every town in our counties since the late heavy frosts, and from what we have been able to gather, we think that Speaker has suffered more extensively than any other township in either Huron or Sanilac.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

H. Osborn, & Co., Ann Arbor, Woolen Factory.

STATE FAIRS FOR 1859.

Illinois, Freeport, Sept. 5-9.
 Vermont, Burlington, Sept. 13-16.
 Kentucky, Lexington, Sept. 13-17.
 Ohio, Zanesville, Sept. 20-23.
 Indiana, New Albany, Sept. 26-30.
 Iowa, Oskaloosa, Sept. 27-30.
 Canada West, Kingston, Sept. 27-30.
 Michigan, Detroit, Oct. 4-7.
 Maine, Augusta, Sept. 13-16.
 New York, Albany, Oct. 4-7.

COUNTY FAIRS FOR 1859.

Macomb, Utica, Oct. 10-12, John Wright, Sec'y.
 Lenawee, Adrian, Oct. 5, A. Howell, Sec'y.
 Northern Lenawee, Tecumseh, Sept. 21, 22.
 Oakland, Pontiac, Oct. 12, M. W. Kelsey, Sec'y.
 St. Joseph, Centerville, Sept. 28-30, D. Oakes, Sec'y.
 Genesee, Flint, Sept. 28, 29, T. H. Rankin, Sec'y.
 Allegan, Allegan, Sept. 28, 29, H. S. Higginbotham, Sec'y.
 Jackson, Jackson, Sept. 28-30, D. Upton, Sec'y.
 Kent, Grand Rapids, Sept. 28-30.

MICHIGAN FARMER.

R. F. JOHNSTONE, EDITOR.

SATURDAY, JULY 9, 1859.

The Crops and the Weather.

There has been but little change in the aspect of matters commercially since last week. The national anniversary has precluded much being done. The markets continue to show a rather declining tendency on most of the principal articles of breadstuffs, whilst we note that the accounts of the crops from all quarters are of the most cheering description; many affirming that there has not been so great a promise of a crop on the ground for the last six years. In the southwestern counties, farmers have already cut their wheat, so that it is out of the danger of contingencies from the weather. The frosts in the northern counties, however, do not seem to have quite got done with the people there. During the morning of the Fourth of July, a frost happened severe enough to cut corn twelve inches high, down to the ground, in low places. This is somewhat unusual, but nevertheless a fact showing how difficult it is to escape the chances of the weather in the north. Yet these are the localities that need the benefit of good crops for one season more than any other place.

The news from Europe shows that the crops are still promising to be most excellent, and that prices are looking downward.

The wool market, as we noticed last week, is mostly over, and agents and commissioners here are beginning to withdraw from buying. So far fair prices have been obtained, and at present there does not yet seem any prevalent symptoms of that decline so much talked about as sure to come. We do not think that there will be any great alteration in rates, though but few purchases will be made for the next two months or during the harvest.

Osborn's Wool Factory.

Farmers and those dealing in wool will do well to notice the advertisement of H. Osborn & Co. in this number of the FARMER. The practice of changing wool for cloth and yarn already manufactured is one which saves a great deal of labor in the household, and is very generally adopted in neighborhoods where there are reliable factories. We are assured that Osborn & Co.'s is of that class, and from their promptness and liberality in dealing with us we feel confident in recommending them to the farmers of Washtenaw and vicinity. Business men who advertise should meet with public favor.

Change.

It will be noticed by reference to the table of County Fairs at the head of our editorial column, that the time for holding the Macomb County Fair has been changed. It will be held on the 10th, 11th, and 12th of October, a week earlier than before announced, to avoid the time fixed for the Circuit Court of that county.

Harvest has Commenced

And it promises to be a glorious one. As early as Friday of last week, the cradle was put to several prices of red wheat, and before this paper gets fairly circulated, the bulk of the red wheat of this country will have been cut. Nothing but protracted rains can prevent a large yield of this kind. The white wheat will be ready to cut by Friday of this week, if the weather is favorable. It is almost beyond the reach of rust. We have had, as yet, but one day in which the wheat has been in any danger from rust, and that was followed by cool winds, so that no damage was done.

The proportion of frost-bitten wheat to the whole, is too inconsiderable to notice, in a

general view. There are a few instances where individuals have lost from this cause, the greater part of their crop; but from all that we can learn we do believe the loss by it in this county, is ten per cent., and taken in connection with the good it performed in the destruction of other enemies to the wheat, it has been of positive advantage. If the weather from this time hence is at all favorable, Kalamazoo will show a product that will astonish even those who are familiar with her fertility and her high character as a grain-growing county.—*Kalamazoo Telegraph*.

The Agricultural College.

We are glad to learn that there now appears to be no ground for the late charge made against the management of the State Agricultural College, of "sectarianism," in refusing to the pupils a reasonable latitude of religious instruction. The course pursued, on the other hand, is represented to have been adopted to prevent any such contingency. The rule was adopted that the religious services of the institution should be conducted by members of the Faculty, and by members of the State Government. With this arrangement which may be the most expedient one they could devise, if Rev. Mr. Knickerbacker, or any other Universalist, desires to officiate there he must get a professorship or an office; and if the people desire that all religious doctrines have an elucidation there they must see that the professorships and offices are sprinkled among the various denominations. We know of no other mode, until some other rule is adopted, to get justice done to all the various cliques.—*Jonesville Independent*.

The Cincinnati Price Current speaking of the crops in that region says:

"The past week has been, as regards the weather, all that could have been desired for the growing crops. The temperature up to Saturday very hot, the thermometer ranging from 80 to 95, with copious showers Saturday afternoon and night. The corn is growing rapidly, and oats and grass coming on better than expected. The wheat is pretty generally harvested in Kentucky and southern Indiana and Ohio, and the quality very superior. Samples sent us from various sections the past week were certainly the finest we have ever seen, both as regards the length of the head and the fullness of the grain. Indeed, we have no complaints from any part, except those portions of Ohio and Pennsylvania, where the frost damaged the crop, as we stated three weeks ago, fully to the extent of one-third. There is no doubt of this, though many then thought the damage was far greater than this, but it has since been discovered such was not the case. Our advisers from Tennessee complain of injury by rust, which lessens the yield.

"Speaking in the aggregate, there can be no doubt that the indications are strongly in favor of a great abundance of food the coming season throughout the Union."

Steam Plowing.

A good deal of excitement now prevails among mechanics and inventors in regard to the application of steam to agricultural purposes. The great prize offered by Illinois will bring into competition much of the inventive genius of the West. We learn that a steam plow is in progress of construction at the locomotive works in this city, which is intended to compete for the six thousand dollar premium. Some idea of the progress English farmers are making in steam plowing, may be gathered from the following correspondence of the London Farmer's Magazine for June.

"In my last I went a little out of my way for the purpose of noting the method in which Smith's steam cultivating apparatus was handled by one of our mechanical farmers.

I found steam up, and doing work with a large cultivator drawn through a piece of land which had been ploughed the last time for mangolds. The cultivator was an old-fashioned one, fitted with the "turning bow." It took a great breadth, and scarified 13 acres in fine style during that day.

I passed over some splendid work done by the No. 3 implement a few days before, about which the owner expressed the utmost satisfaction. He seems wonderfully pleased with the "tackle," and very sanguine as to its success. It has enabled him to take another tract of land without adding to his stock of horses.

One great improvement I noticed was, that there were no stoppages on the headlands of the work. The saving of time was effected by an arrangement of two snatch blocks and anchors at each turning point. The new porters were used, which raise the rope entirely from the ground, and reduce the wear of the strands in a surprising manner. These rope

porters should certainly supersede those that were at first employed.

I was amused to find that a pair of large drag-barrows had been drawn by the rope, and that an old clod-crusher had been rung in the nose and lugged unwillingly over the great clods.

The steel-rope wears remarkably well. A long reach of chain intervenes between the eyes of the rope and the turning-bow, to avoid the wear which was found inseparable from its contact with the implement.

I had a good deal of conversation with the owner of this apparatus as to the future of steam cultivation, and I found him prepared to introduce several improvements in the details. And it is only as this machinery comes into the hands of such men that it will become fitted for general use. Every day work will soon show its weak points. Field days are never very satisfactory: there is always so much to allow for, owing to this circumstance and the other, that conclusions founded upon special trials must be carefully received. He condemned very strongly the acrimony which the inventors of the different systems throw into the discussion of their merits. And it is sad that men who are avowedly seeking to elicit the truth, cannot give each other credit for purity of conduct but must ever impute the basest motives possible to their actions. We have no reason to think that Mr. Smith, or Mr. Fowler, or Mr. Hall, or Mr. Anybody-else are so bad as they make each other out to be. They sometimes forget that there is such a thing as proving too much. As is usual, however, some good may generally be extracted from every evil; and so it is, that out of these personal recriminations most profitable disclosures are made to the public. It is the worst policy possible for two of a trade to quarrel; for then it is that the tricks of the trade are sure to be divulged.

Whether we are to plow or to cultivate, let us not fight about it. Reason must calmly decide. Depend upon it, the farmers of England will not make it a party question. That apparatus which performs the best and most economical work is sure to secure the greatest sale, be the other Fowler's, or Smith's, or whose it may. And we cannot judge on this point until we know better the wear-and-tear of Mr. Fowler's machinery and rope. We have already formed a pretty correct notion of what the wear-and-tear of Mr. Smith's tackle is, because the public has given it a longer and more general trial. We must wait a bit for results from the other side, and then strike the balance.

How many a man has made up his mind as to these two systems, but is still waiting for some great improvements! These improvements will not be made, let me say, unless the farmers help to bring them about. They are mainly improvements in detail, which must be suggested by those who use the machinery, being the fruit of experience. It always requires the combined skill and knowledge of two parties to produce a good implement—the practical mechanist, and the practical farmer. The question to be answered is, does what we have at present presented to us offer decided advantages over existing modes of cultivation? If so, adopt it. There is a loud affirmative reply given to this question by all who have used it with discretion. While those who are in favor of this system are waiting for some improvement in detail, they are losing a benefit that might be worth to them, in one year, the entire value of the rope, windlass, tackle, engine, and all. What I saw upon my friend's farm quite convinced me of this.

There are many observers, many watching the course of the plow and the cultivator. Let us receive more frequently some extracts from their note-books. They should keep the public mind well posted-up in this matter. The question of steam cultivation is of vital importance to us; and we require information upon it from all sources, and most of all from impartial sources. Let the partial ones be quiet, and the impartial ones make their voices heard."

Literary News.

Received.—From the American Institute, their volume of Transactions for 1857. This is a well-filled work of something over 700 pages, illustrated with numerous engravings of mechanical designs, implements, machinery, &c. The agricultural portion of the book is peculiarly interesting and instructive, containing a vast amount of information in the reports of the proceedings of the New York Farmer's Club. We shall take occasion to refer to this department again. We return thanks for the volume.

Received.—The Sixth Volume of the American Cyclopaedia, Appletons publishers. This is one of the most interesting volumes yet issued, embracing a range of subjects from C O U to E D U. One improved feature is that more space is given to personal history and historical events than to mere geographical descriptions of places. Cromwell, Cuba, Cuvier, Dana, Dante, Decatur, Demosthenes, Disraeli, Dinwiddie, Drake, and very many other subjects of popular interest are ably treated. This volume contains over 770 pages. The terms and other particulars will be found in our advertising columns.

Scientific Intelligence.

Agricultural Patents issued for the Week ending June 21, 1859.—R. Daniels, Woodstock, Vt. Improvement in straw cutters.

Nathaniel Eames, Hanover, Pa. Improvement in hulling clover.

A. H. Emery, Mexico, N. Y. Improvement in cheese presses.

P. H. Freelinghuysen and J. H. Holman, of Johnston, Pa. Improvement in corn planters.

A. Hotchkiss, Sharon, Conn., and J. P. Adriance, New York City. Improved guard fingers for harvesters.

Perry Marcy, Tunkhannock, Penn. Improvement in potato diggers.

H. D. McGeorge and D. C. Geer of Morgantown, Va. Corn and cane harvesters.

S. Van E. Newman, Covington, N. Y. Improved machines for harvesting beans.

J. Peeler, Tallahassee, Florida, Improvement in cultivators.

A. Philipp, Mayville, Wis. Machine for cutting sugar cane.

J. Peeler, Tallahassee, Fla. Machine for sowing fertilizers.

W. & T. Schneibly, Hackensack, N. J. Harvesting machine.

S. C. Stoddard, Worcester, Mass. Improvement in cultivators.

Geo. F. Tiffany, Palmyra, Mich. Improvement in machines for digging potatoes. The machine is thus described:

"In front of the cart body an adjustable plow is placed, constructed with closed slides, and operating by means of a wheel placed in front of it, so as to be self adjusting while passing over the potato hills, adapting itself to the various depths of hills, and plowing up the potatoes and sending them on to an endless ridge, where the dirt is cleaned off them, so that the device forms an excellent potato-digger."

F. Veal, Hallettsville, Texas. Cultivator.

D. Warren, Gettysburg, Pa. Improved method of opening farm gates.

H. Wells, Walnut Grove, Ill. Cultivator.

The following description of Capt. Dustin's Patent Steam Gauge is from the Port Huron Commercial:

"The other day we had ocular and auricular demonstration of the working of this excellent invention at the mill of Mr. Whitman, and we were surprised, both at the simplicity of its mechanism, and the impossibility of a boiler explosion, when it is used, without such a sharp, piercing alarm as would awaken the seven sleepers in time to save the boiler, either by pumping, or by extinguishing the fire. The invention consists of a brass globe, sufficiently buoyant to float upon the top of the water. The ball is placed in position and surmounted by a small perpendicular shaft, which is made to fit in a concave tube. When the globe is kept sufficiently elevated, by means of the requisite quantity of water, of course the perpendicular shaft fits closely in the tube, and no steam can escape; but when the water is lowered in the boiler, the globe lowers with it, loosens the shaft in the tube, and the steam thus getting vent, whistles and screams in a terrific way, until the water is replenished in the boiler, when it again becomes still."

General News.

—The Fourth was a glorious day here, and appropriately celebrated by citizens and visitors, with processions, picnics, excursions, &c., through the day, and a splendid display of fireworks at night.

—M. Blondin last week accomplished the feat of crossing the Niagara river, just below the Falls, on a tight rope. The time occupied was 17½ minutes.

—On Friday last week the trial trip of La Montain's great balloon ship was made from St. Louis. In nineteen hours it made a voyage of 1,100 miles, landing near Sackett's Harbor, in Jefferson county, N. Y. Twenty-two hundred and fifty yards of Chinese silk were used in making the balloon, and six miles of cord for the netting. It was one hundred and thirty feet high, and one hundred and eighty feet in circumference. It carried, besides the car with four men in it, with tools, ballast, provisions, &c., a boat of 500 pounds weight. It came down in a forest, and is much injured, but will be repaired, and La Montain will make another voyage from Chicago.

—The Boston people have concluded to set up Power's statue of Webster in the Court House square.

—An express from Denver City, June 22, reports a great conflagration in the pinneries between Jackson's and Gregory's diggings, by which many lives were lost.

—A sail boat capsized on a small lake in Indiana on the Fourth. Sixteen persons, mostly women and children, were drowned.

—The wife of Hon. Edward Everett died in Boston on the 2d inst.

—Gen. Pierce will return to this country next month. Mrs. Pierce's health continues to fail.

—Mr. G. B. Chandler and his young nephew were drowned near Kalamazoo last week while bathing in the river.

—The taxable property of the City of New York is assessed at \$551,233,122.

—A Bloomer convention was held at Auburn, N. Y. last week, at which it is said several ladies from Michigan were present. Names not published. The platform laid down is as follows:

First: Our purpose is to perform a duty to ourselves and society, and not to attract public attention by eccentric display.

Second: We believe that all the ills that female flesh is heir to arise from the prevalent modes and habits of female dress, and we therefore go in for short and loose dresses in order to obtain bodily freedom and physical development.

Third: The recent awakening of public interest in our movement increases our faith in its importance.

Fourth: We believe that woman's rights women proper are only tantalizing us with visions of the impossible, so long as the present fashions hold the scepter of supremacy.

Fifth: Woman's subjection to fashion is the evidence of her dependence and inferior position.

Sixth: Bondage to fashion is incompatible with religion.

—The Spiritualists had a gathering at Sturgis, in this State, on the 19th ult. It is stated that 1,600 were there.

—The Detroit and Milwaukee railroad company design building a pier at Grand Haven, the cost of which is estimated at about \$200,000.

—The corner stone of the New York State Agricultural College was laid on the 7th inst. The building is to be ready for occupation by next spring.

—Mr. McCoy, who left Denver City on the 24th ult., informs the St. Joseph West that there are only eight or ten of the claims yet discovered that pay, add those are on the Gregory lead; all the rest are deserted. He reports the richness of the other claims as absolutely false. Miners are leaving in large numbers. Some 8,000 wagons are now on the return trip. McCoy estimates that from 25,000 to 30,000 persons are in and about the mines, most of whom are doing nothing, or working for their board. He says that the mines will not support more than 5,000 people, and advises everybody to stay at home.

Political Intelligence.

The Democratic State Convention of Iowa, have nominated for Governor, A. C. Dodge; for Lieutenant Governor, L. W. Barritt.

The Republicans of Wisconsin, will hold a State Convention at Madison on the 31st of August next, for the nomination of candidates.

Hon. L. M. Morrill has been nominated as Republican candidate for Governor of Maine.

The New York State Democratic Convention met at Syracuse on the 7th inst.

Foreign News.

The latest advices from Europe bring news of another great battle between the French and Austrians on Friday the 24th of June.

The entire Austrian army had formed in line of battle, extending a distance of five leagues. The battle lasted from 4 o'clock in the morning until 3 P. M. The French captured a number of flags, pieces of cannon and prisoners.

A dispatch from Vienna says a battle was progressing, but gives no details.

The previous accounts from the seat of war said that the Austrian force on the Mincio was fully 280,000 strong; that the entire French force had passed Monte Chiaro, and their reconnaissance was said to have been pushed as far as Gato; and that the Piedmontese had advanced towards Peschiera, the northwest fortification of the Historic Square.

Prussia had demanded permission to march 30,000 troops through Hanover to the Rhine, between the 1st and 5th of July.

It was believed that the basis of the proposed mediation of Prussia would not be acceptable to France, and Prussia would thereby be involved in the war. It was also rumored that Prussia had threatened to assist in suppressing the meditated insurrectionary movements in Hungary.

The Swiss troops which were sent from Rome to suppress the rising at Perugia had had a desperate encounter with the people, shooting them down indiscriminately.

Garibaldi was accomplishing remarkable feats, in surprising the Austrians, making marches of fifty miles in a day, and setting the country through which he passed in favor of national independence.

There was an important omission in Napoleon's dispatch announcing the great battle, as telegraphed from Cape Race. The Emperor says: "We have taken all the enemy's positions, captured many cannon, &c."

No additional intelligence concerning the battle was received in London up to 2 o'clock Saturday P. M.

Heavy cannonading was heard Verona.

The recent tumult in Venice was occasioned by rumors that the French had landed in Padua, and that Venice would be surrendered in three days.—The people there began to mount their cockades with the Italian colors, and crowds gathered in front of the Austrian houses and began to hiss.—The Austrian patrol were ordered out, but with instructions not to fire on the people if they could subdue them otherwise; but, being received with insulting remarks, they made an attack upon the mob with the butts of their muskets, and finally cleared the street. The report that some of the people were killed by the military is not confirmed.

The Sardinian official bulletin of the affair at Perugia between the people and the Papal troops states that the Swiss troops attacked the town on the 20th, and met with great resistance, but, after three hours' fighting, they forced an entrance to the town. The combat was then renewed in the streets, and continued for two hours longer. The Swiss troops trampled down and killed even women and inoffensive persons. On the next day the outrages and firing upon the people were recommenced. The town was placed in a state of siege.

The advices from Malta state that eight steam vessels are ready for departure, and it is asserted that their destination is the Adriatic.

The official Preussische Zeitung of Wednesday says: "The Franco Sardinian army is moving near the frontier of Germany. The Prussian government regards the security of Germany as entrusted to its care. The Italian conflict is assuming ever-increasing dimensions. England and Russia are arming on the greatest scale. The Prussian government would be faithless to its duty, and to the sense of the nation, if she should neglect to act commensurately with that spirit by which Prussia has become great. Prussia is free from every engagement, from the innermost nature of her State interests. It will be seen whether Prussia's initiative will be supported with the necessary weight by the German States. Prussia's policy stands firm, and whoever lays obstacles in its way may consider that he is rendering service to the enemies of the Fatherland."

The London Times says of the new British Ministry now organized under Lord Palmerston:

"There never was a more powerful cast as far as the men are concerned. In the first place, there are sixteen Cabinet Ministers, while several of the men out of the Cabinet are of the rank of statesmen. The cabinet is indeed overcharged with power of one sort or another. It contains two men who have been Premiers, three Dukes, two popular chiefs, and several men of long and varied official experience; a Lord Chancellor who is still young at eighty, and at least half-a-dozen men who, having worked out several important controversies, must by this time have corrected their own conclusions by one another's experience.

Four distinct sections are amply represented in the Cabinet. Indeed, all are fighting men, and there are not sixteen such men to be found out of the Cabinet. There is no reason why they should not manage their differences within doors; and if they do, who can resist them? No doubt, such a cabinet will be liable to all the suspicion and all the sarcasms which from time immemorial have been launched against fusions and composite arrangements. Of course, it is not a Utopian government; for England is not Utopia. An English government we take not to be a theory, or the development of a principle, or a collection of heroic personages. It is a room full of the best men of the day, who ever they happen to be. We must take them as they come, or rather, they make us take them as they come."

It was announced in Paris on Friday that a corps d'arme of 40,000 men, mainly from the African regiments, was expected shortly in the Adriatic Sea.

Dispatches from Milan confirm the accounts that the French troops are advancing towards the Valtellina.

The Archduke Governor of Tyrol had arrived at Nanders, to superintend the enrollment of 24,000 men in Tyrol and Voraro.

Advices from Rome say an attempt was made there on Sunday to display the tricolor flag and proclaim the dictatorship of Victor Emmanuel, but Gen. Goyon interfered to prevent.

The Household.

"She looketh well to the ways of her household, and saileth not the bread of idleness."—PROVERBS.

EDITED BY MRS. L. B. ADAMS.

SONG OF THE MOWERS.

BY CHARLES BOYNTON HOWELL.

See them at the early morn
Mowing, mowing,
When the east with golden beams
First is glowing.
Hear their song upon the air,
Ringing, ringing;
Well I know from their soul's depths
Joy is springing.
When they hear the dinner horn
Blowing, blowing,
Then they with a cheerful heart
Cease their mowing.
Soon again they're in the meadow
Mowing, mowing, mowing,
And they mow till the God of Day
To his rest is going.
Peacefully their rest they take,
While night's queen is gleaming;
But again they're in the field
When morn's light is beaming.

Happy, happy, be their hearts
While they're mowing, mowing,
Happy, happy, be their hearts
As through life they're going.

Pontiac, July, 1889.

Early Rising.

"Up in the morning's no for me,
Up in the morning early,
I'd rather go supperless to my bed
Than rise in the morning early."

The author of these lines evidently never had housework to do on a sultry summer morning. If he had his tune would have been changed.

Moralists and poets have said and sung a great deal about the virtues and beauties of early rising, but the general tenor of all their writings is either too didactic or too sentimental for practical, every-day use among working people. The solemn visaged teacher of ethics will stand up and deal out to you by the hour his little slips of aphorisms, as polished as steel, and as sharp, and hard, and cold. They pierce through your brain like an arrow, and are gone—so keen, as quick not even a scar is left. They never touch the heart, they are not aimed at it. Your theoretical moralist is no believer in anything so human as a heart. He stands up before you with his quiver full of the little glittering darts that he has spent years in polishing down to the utmost limit of visibility, and lets them off at your head with the calm, deliberate precision of an experienced marksman. Rise! he says. Nature's God is awake! Why sleep? Time is short! Redeem it! Moments fly! Catch them! Open thine eyes! Wisdom is before thee! Seek it! Honor awaits thee! Go to her! Fame beckons! Follow on! Death is near! Be ready! Immortality calls! Go up! And with his cold, still finger pointing to the emptiness above his head, significant of the immortality he has won, he turns on his heel with the comfortable self-assurance that every arrow hit the mark!

Pity some practical Yankee would not ask him if it were worth a man's while to make such arrows to shoot at such a mark.

Then comes the romantic sentimentalist, all alive with the glories of the summer morning. He is blown full of the balmy sweetness of the early breeze. Rivers and rivulets are dancing through his veins and arteries. He has bathed in dew and broke his fast with nectar and ambrosia. Odors and incense are floating around him, the music of all the birds of the forest trills from his tongue and trembles on his lips. With the flower-gemmed emerald earth beneath him, the soft ethereal fragrance of the atmosphere around, and the sapphire vault just tinged with morning's rosy dawn above, he is ready to be exhaled, evaporated, trans—, in short he is ready to go off. And he does go off into such sublime displays of extatic nonsense that he over-surfeits the long ago surfeited world of senseless sentimentalism. He pours molasses on honey, melts sugar and pours it upon that, and then tosses in candy kisses and sugar-plums and endeavors to force the sickening mixture down the throat of every unfortunate wretch who is suspected of indulging in the luxury of a morning nap. He tries to entice young maidens out into the "dewy meads" before sunrise. He is always particular to have them appear in "white robes fluttering in the breeze." Usually he would have them engaged in

Brushing the dew-drops from the lawn
With airy steps and light.

But if they happen to be farmers' girls they are sometimes permitted to carry a milk pail in their hand, or on their head, not, however, for any practical use that we could ever discover. They are to trip over the meadows while he sings in their ears,

"The rose is red, the violet's blue,"
or something else equally novel and tender.

Some people, doubtless moved by jealousy, have suggested that these aerial poets never got near enough to the earth to know that the dew was wet. Others hint, ill-naturedly, that their rhapsodies on early rising are all written in bed! and that the authors have no knowledge whatever of the true state of things out of doors at that time of day; but we are inclined to accept the more charitable exposition of the old lady who reckoned the writer of certain verses "had never seen what a condition the girls' frocks and stockings was in when they came back from those walks in the grass, for if he had he would not want to 'tice 'em off again in that way!'"

This is a practical view of things, and bring us back to our text again, or, rather, to the intention with which we started, that of showing how at variance with a good housekeeper's is the opinion of the poet quoted at the head of this chapter. Neither the wives nor daughters of farmers are apt to indulge in very speculative or romantic ideas of early rising. Those who do practice it, do so usually both from motives of necessity and from a knowledge that their own personal comfort will thereby be increased.

"Dear me!" says drowsy Betty, rubbing her eyes open at seven o'clock on a summer morning, "I can't see what pleasure there is in early rising! I'm sure I have taken more comfort sleeping than I would out in the barnyard milking the cows, or in the kitchen making breakfast over the hot stove, and washing dishes, baking, ironing and churning. I had rather take another nap now than get up, even if it isn't so very early—and I guess I will."

About eight o'clock you may see Betty in the cow-yard, still rubbing her eyes to make sure she is after the right cow, as the poor animals, fretted with waiting and worried with flies, go driving at each other, whisking their tails, and kicking spitefully in their impatience to be gone to the shady woods. When the ceremony of chasing them about the usual length of time and getting what milk she can, is over, Betty goes to the kitchen and finds work enough there to keep her steaming over the dishwater for the next hour or two. Her mother prepared the breakfast, and is now down cellar churning. Before the dishes are fairly out of the way, it is time to think of the dinner, and not only to think of it, but to commence preparations; and so between the work and the hot stove and hotter sunshine, the steaming dishwater and boiling dinner pot, to say nothing of the fret and hurry she is in, poor Betty has a pretty hard time of it. Perhaps she is sorry she did not take another nap that morning, though we rather suspect she is more inclined to envy the comfortable condition of her sprightly little neighbor over the way, Sally Smart, who had her cows milked before the sun was up or the flies stirring, and the breakfast dishes washed and the vegetables all prepared for dinner before Betty had finished her exercises in the cow yard! From nine o'clock to eleven, she has been sitting in her little sewing chair on the side porch, partly behind the vines and roses, but just where Betty can see her from the kitchen window, and just where poor Betty secretly wishes she might be on such a sultry July morning.

But Sally did not win the ease she is enjoying by napping in her bed after daylight. No one ever heard her sing,—

"Up in the morning's no for me," &c.

and yet there is not a particle of romance about Sally, and we doubt whether she ever read a treatise on early rising in her life. She is just like hundreds whom we might name, and hundreds more to whom we are known only through these columns. She knows, as do all housekeepers, that the work is to be done, and there is seldom any question as to whose shoulders the burden of the day will fall upon. It only remains, therefore, to devise the means of doing it to the best advantage, if the doers thereof have regard to their own personal comfort as well as to the necessities which require the labor to be performed.

These two considerations, necessity and personal comfort, have more influence in inducing habits of early rising than all the sermons your theorist may preach, or the sillinesses your sentimentalist may sing. You may wonder why the class to which Betty belongs will persist in dragging along the way they do, when there is a better and easier way so very near them. We fancy they know very well what the "better way" is, and that they are only prevented from entering it by a little constitutional difficulty vulgarly called "laziness," which first led to the napping system, and that has been indulged in so long that it has become almost second nature, and now, though literally in "hot water" through the heat of the day, and envying Sally at her sewing in the shady porch, yet if you make an effort to get them on the right track by half past four o'clock

to morning, doubtless they would only turn over impatiently, muttering, as they suited the action to the word, "A little more sleep, a little more slumber, a little more folding of the hands to sleep!" They may know something of the comfort of sleeping, like the dormant bear or the burrowing woodchuck, but of the fresh, sweet pleasure the early riser drinks in, the satisfaction she feels on washing days of having long lines of clothes hung out ready to glisten in the first beams of the rising sun, of having her cows milked and out of the way before the stinging flies were awake, the butter churned and packed down while it was cool and sweet, the baking well forward, and above all, the gratification beyond words to express of having the dishes washed early! of these delights the sluggards know as little as do the animals whose propensities they imitate. Who envies them?

RECOLLECTIONS OF IRELAND.

PREPARED FOR THE YOUTHFUL READERS OF THE MICHIGAN FARMER BY SLOW JAMIE.

NUMBER FIVE.

Beyond the Bann from us, the country rose up to the Mourne Mountains; and for a long distance the square fields could be counted, till they appeared no larger than a garden.

The hawthorn hedges formed the handsomest feature in the landscape. In the spring they were white with blossoms, which, mingled with wild primroses and woodbine, afforded a refreshing fragrance. In some winters they were covered with sweet haws till spring. These nourished a great number of small birds which often wintered in the Island.

In summer the hedge never wanted its song. On the top of the highest bush the linnet trilled its notes the whole day long. From the thickest part of the hedge the rich tones of the thrush could be heard, while his timid mate brooded in some briar bush close by. He seemed never to leave the thorn, while she kept the nest. Not so loud, but quite as sweet, the little robin-red-breast whistled his simple tune, while his little mate hatched their speckled eggs, or brooded on the callow young. The robin-red-breast of the old country, unlike the American robin, is but little larger than our smallest tom-tit. The male has a scarlet breast speckled with jet. The female has plain plumage and no song. Some of my young readers may have a curiosity to know more about the robin's song, and for their sake I will translate a couple of verses out of Robinnical Irish into plain English:—

"Go soft asleep, my little brood,
Rocked by the mountain wind.
You'll never have a father false,
Nor any of your kind.
The savage cat may crush these limbs,
And tear my scarlet vest,
When e'er a thought to leave my charge,
Shall move Cock Robin's breast."

Your mother wears a russet gown;
A single note has she,
No other music will I hear,
No other beauty see.
She broods upon your downy nest
Till you grow warm and strong,
While Robin sings you food to eat,
Or sings a merry song."

After all, this is a very imperfect specimen of the robin's song. The richest thoughts are left out, partly owing to my imperfect knowledge of the bird's language, and partly owing to the incapacity of the English tongue to convey its most delicate sentiments.

Some hedges were lined with briars which in autumn clustered thick with luscious black berries, but because some people, when they ate too many, were sick, the people had a foolish prejudice against them, and forbade their children to eat them. I have often gathered them by handfulls and eaten them freely, but I always wiped my lips carefully before I went home. I certainly did wrong to disobey, but I think now that they did wrong too in forbidding me. Whatever is relished by the unvitiated appetite is seldom unhealthy.

The climate is far from being as pleasant as the face of the country. Many of the Irish in this country, long for the mild winters and cool summers of the native clime. But this arises more from partiality, than a correct estimate.

It is true that an ocean stream flowing from the south by the coast, moderates the rigor of winter. But this very circumstance gives a chilly dampness to the atmosphere far more disagreeable to the stranger than our extremes of heat and cold. I remember one fall it rained a little every day for six weeks. The wheat grows with a large plump grain, but it never ripens dry enough to make good flour, unless it be mixed with a little American wheat. It is this dampness of atmosphere which gives it such a green vegetation summer and winter, and secures it the name of the Green Island. To this circumstance too it owes its superior quality of flax. This plant grows so slowly in the Island that but

little of the seed comes to maturity and the strength of the plant goes to fibre. Large as is the amount of flax raised in Ireland, they always depend on America for their seed.

The mildness of the climate and the softness of the herbage suits the Island for rabbits and hares. And as the mountains afford them shelter they abound in great numbers.

The hare feeds by night, and sleeps by day; but when a frosty night is followed by a sunny morning, you can see them by dozens feeding by the edge of some copse. They raise their young in the mountains, none but the old were ever seen in our neighborhood. They would sleep among some tall grass in an elevated position. A knoll or the top of a dyke was generally their favorite location. Perhaps some little reader thinks he would catch a hare, if he found her asleep in broad daylight. Perhaps he would, but perhaps he would not. She sleeps with her legs drawn up ready for a spring, and her eyes partly open, so that his very shadow would wake her. As he would be bringing down his hands on her back, she would make one bound, and away like the wind.

My grandfather did once come across one and knock her over, before it started. She was but little hurt, and he took her home. She was about twice as large as a rabbit, with large soft bright eyes, smooth, brown fur, and long ears;—"a little cow with leather horns," as the old riddle has it. They might have tamed her, but by the oppressive game laws he was subject to a penalty for touching her, and they only kept her for a few days.

Another time a hare was started and ran right by our door. So many of the neighbors happened to be working in the fields at the time that one frightened her towards another, and kept her some time within a small compass. At last she jumped a hedge and met a dog right in the teeth. Springing from the dog she leaped against a little boy, name Alick Edgar. He was as smart as a cat, and seized her. He kept off the dog and started home in high glee with a prize, to which he was fairly entitled. By this time, however, the game keeper was on the alert, and coming up ordered him to let the hare go.

It is said that the speed of a hare is such that if she would run straight ahead, when she is started up, no ordinary hound could ever catch her. But she runs violently a little while till she leaves the dogs behind, then sitting down, she listens to the sound till they come up and then off again. In this way she worries herself, till the dogs, which are trained to save their strength, wear her down and take her. Let my young readers learn a lesson of caution and perseverance.

Household Varieties.

AN IDEAL.

BY WILLIAM WINTER.

Ah, her face is very fair,—
Pale and rosy, white and red.
And the glorious, golden hair
Hovers mist-like round her head.

And her voice is soft and low,—
Very gentle, very sweet:
Hearing it you hardly know
Where the sound and silence meet.

And the magic who can tell
Of her innocent replies,
Or what heavenly meanings dwell
In her kind, confiding eyes!

Rosy lips, as rubies bright,
Hardly hide the tiny pearls,
Little wandering stars of light
Love to nestle in her curls.

She has very winning ways,
Full of tenderness and grace,
And a sacred sweetness plays
Gently o'er her gentle face.

And her soul is pure within,—
Bathed in God's serene air:
Evil and the shame of sin
Cannot dwell a moment there!

Now,—thou lovely little girl,
Fond creation of the brain,
Phantom, born in Fancy's whirl,
Must I hope for thee in vain?

Nay,—the tides of being roll
Toward a heaven yet to be!
Sacred idol of my soul,
Wait thou for my love and me!

How They Look.—A correspondent of the Springfield Republican (Mass.) writing of literary celebrities says:

"Emerson looks like a refined farmer, meditative and quiet. Longfellow like a good-natured beef-eater. Holmes like a ready-to-laugh little body, only wishing to be 'as funny as he can.' Everett seems only the graceful gentleman who has been handsome. Beecher a ruddy rollicking boy. Bancroft a plain, negative looking man. Whittier the most retiring of Quakers. Bryant a plain, serene looking man dressed in gray. And thus I might name others. Not one of these gentlemen can be called handsome, unless we except Beecher, who might be a deal handsomer. In this respect they can bear no palm away from intellectual women, who have always been called very homely. There is nothing in a dominant intellect, in continuous, far-reaching, wearing thought, to favor the curves of beauty; it consumes a greater quantity of tissue and fluid than it supplies. It dilates the eye but deepens the lines, sharpens the bones, and often wears the nerves to a torturing quickness. So this is one reason why intellectual women should carry their quantum of ugliness. Let us look at them as they pass. Mrs. Sigourney, the grandmother of American 'female' literature,

in her prime (if we may believe her portrait) was quite handsome. Catherine Beecher is homely.—Mrs. Beecher Stowe so ordinary in looks she has been taken for Mrs. Stowe's "Biddy." Mrs. C. M. Kirkland is a fat dowager. Mrs. E. F. Elliot looks like a washerwoman. Margaret Fuller was plain. Charlotte Cushman has a face as marked as Daniel Webster's, and quite as strong. So has Elizabeth Blackwell. Harriet Hosmer looks like a man.—Mrs. Anne S. Stephens heavy and coarse. Mrs. Oakes Smith is considered handsome. Mrs. Julia Ward Howe had been a New York belle. Frances S. Osgood had a lovely womanly face. Amelia B. Welby was almost beautiful, Sarah J. Hale, in her young days, quite, unless her picture fits. The Davidson sisters, as well as their gifted mother, possessed beauty. If we cross the ocean we find Madame de Stael was a fright; but Hannah Moore was handsome; Elizabeth Fry glorious; Letitia Landon pretty; Mrs. Hemans wondrous lovely; Mary Howitt fair and matronly; Mrs. Norton regally beautiful; but alas! she who has the largest brain of all, with as great a heart, Elizabeth Barrett Browning, in physique is angular, and though she has magnificent eyes, her face is suggestive of a tombstone. Charlotte Bronte had a look in her eyes better than all beauty of features. But if we look at the British men of first class craniums—Shakespeare and Milton were handsome; Dr. Johnson was a monster of ugliness, so were Goldsmith and Pope, Addison was tolerably handsome, and Coleridge, Shelley, Byron, Moore, Campbell, Burns, all were uncommonly so. Sir Walter Scott looked very ordinary, in spite of his fine head. Macaulay is homely. Bulwer nearly hideous, although a dandy. Charles Dickens is called handsome, but I must be allowed to differ; and, covered with jewelry, he can but look like a simpleton. I might go on almost ad infinitum—but, after all, in proportion, is this class any homelier than any other?

The Number Three.—When the world was created, we find land, water and sky; sun, moon and star. Noah had but three sons; Jonah was three days in the whale's belly; our Savior passed three days in the tomb. Peter denied his Savior thrice. There were three patriarchs—Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Abraham entertained three angels. Samuel was called three times. "Simon, lovest thou me?" was repeated three times. Daniel was thrown into a den with three lions for praying three times a day. Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were rescued from the flames of the oven.—The Ten Commandments were delivered on the third day. Jacob had three friends. St. Paul speaks of faith, hope and charity, these three.—Those famous dreams of the baker and butler were to come to pass in three days; and Elijah prostrated himself three times on the body of the dead child. Samson deceived Delilah three times before she discovered the source of his strength.

The sacred letters on the cross are I. H. S.; so also the Roman motto was composed of three words, "In Hoc Signo." There are three conditions for man: the earth, heaven and hell; there is also the Holy Trinity. In Mythology, three Graces; Cerberus, with his three heads; Neptune, holding his three toothed staff; the Oracle of Delphi cherished with veneration the tripod; and the nine Muses sprang from three. In nature we have male, female and offspring; morning, noon and night. Trees group their leaves in threes; there is the three leaved clover. "Every ninth wave is a ground swell. We have fish flesh and fowl. The majority of mankind die at thirty. What could be done in mathematics without the aid of the triangle? witness the power of the wedge; and in logic three premises are indispensable. It is a common phrase that "three is a lucky number."—Knickerbocker.

A Western editor offered his hat as a prize for the best essay on Independence. The following obtained it: "National independence is more easily imagined than described; personal independence consists emphatically in being situated in a clean shirt, drawers, socks and a nicely blacked pair of boots, with at least a dollar and a clean cambric in your pocket, all on Sunday morning, with your wife on one arm, and your baby on the other, taking your own course toward your own preacher, in the blissful hope of doing your own snoozing in your own pwn, where no one dare nudge you with his elbow, or tickle your nose with a straw."

Some one says: "Insects generally must lead a truly jovial life. Think what it must be to lodge in a lily. Imagine a palace of ivory or pearl, with pillars of silver and capitals of gold, all exhaling such a perfume as never arose from human censor. Fancy again, the fun of tucking yourself up for the night in the folds of a rose, rocked to sleep by the gentle sighs of a summer's air; and nothing to do when you awake but to wash yourself in a dew drop and fall to and eat your bed clothes!"

Mary's Married Life.

CHAPTER VI.

Three months passed before Dr. Freeland was again heard of in C. Poor Mary and her little ones hardly knew whether to be pleased or sorry when he did at last return, so changed and so estranged did he seem. A coarse, rough man, with bloated form and features, moody and morose, seeming to desire no attentions shown to himself and showing none to others, who could have recognized in him the graceful young physician who, but a few years before, had won the gentle Mary from her country home, and made her for a time, as she had often said, "the proudest of wives, the happiest of women?"

And Mary? was she not changed too?—Yes, changed indeed, but still the same gentle, loving wife, the tender mother, companion, friend and teacher of her own children, as she had been of the little flock where we first found her, in the forest schoolhouse. How dreary and desolate she felt at heart through all those lonely summer months, no one but herself could know. Mrs. Martin was a kind hearted and well meaning woman, and feeling quite secure of getting her pay out

of those huge boxes her husband had locked up in the bar-room loft, for any indulgence her boarders might want, she was not backward in proffering her services at all times, and especially requesting Mrs. Freeland to make herself at home and not mind any trouble the children might be. The children, however, were seldom far from their mother's side. She taught them lessons as regularly as if they were at school, and in this way and in long rambles through the surrounding woods, the first sad summer in the wilderness passed. The "farm," as the children called their mother's land, had been visited more than once; though Mary found, to her great disappointment, as many others have, both before and since, that a "farm" in speculating phrase might be interpreted to mean any part of the earth's surface, whether capable of tillage or not. Mrs. Martin was not far wrong in calling it "a wild, fever'n' ager sort of a place."

By the road they had to go, it was full two miles from the little village. A small river bounded the tract on one side, and for several rods back from the stream all was marsh and swamps of tangled underbrush, full of dead trees, some fallen and some standing; and beyond these the land rose in ridges or knobs, with great boulders of stone cropping out all over them, and covered with a heavy growth of young oaks, too small for timber, and yet too large and too densely grown to admit the idea of cultivating the land except at an immense expense, even if the soil had any promise of fertility in it. As everybody said, it seemed true that the speculator had reaped the first and last harvest those hills and hollows would ever yield. Mary was well nigh disheartened at the prospect before her. Think of it as she would, there seemed little hope, even before her husband's return, that her father's gift could be turned to any purpose as a means of living; still, she would believe and hope, and she resolved that whatever might come, that gift should be sacred for her children's sake. She could turn with a cheerful heart and good will to her old occupation, and time might come when the land would be of some value to her family, it would at least be a foothold on the earth which they could call their own. But all the plans, hopes and resolves with which she had beguiled herself so long, faded away when her husband came, as daylight fades when the darkness of a night of storms falls suddenly down upon it. In all her sky there seemed not the glimmer of a star.

With Dr. Freeland came the man Beaman, a crafty, fawning knave, ready for anything evil, and as willing to be made a tool of as he was to make tools of others. The two were inseparable bar-room companions, where, with cards and brandy, they spent hours upon hours with scarcely a word spoken between them. If the villagers came in and looked on awhile, they soon became weary of the sullen silence of the players, and either knowing or caring little for the game, found no temptation to stay, and such a dogged exclusivism did the two friends maintain, that the influence of their example never seemed to go beyond themselves.

In about two weeks Beaman suddenly disappeared again, and then Dr. Freeland told his wife that he had made arrangements to sell her land there and buy a lot in a small settlement about twenty miles away, where he could put up an office and commence practice. Mary had resolved to be strong and firm for her children's sake; she thought she was, and began with gentle earnestness to tell him of her plans, how she thought it best to retain the land, which would undoubtedly increase in value in a few years, and would make a home for them if everything else failed, and if his practice should not for a time be sufficient for their support, she would open a school.

As she came to this point, she cast her eyes somewhat timidly towards her husband's face. Not another word did she utter. Had she been suddenly transformed to an image of ice, she could scarcely have been more pale and cold and rigid. She read scorn, contempt and utter loathing in the eyes fixed upon her. Swollen and bloodshot eyes they were, with expression more demon-like than human; yet Mary sat staring into them as if fascinated by some terrible power, while cruel, taunting words fell from his bloated lips.

"Have you dared to speak that word here?" he said. "Curse the day I listened to your hypocritical sermon! I thought then I knew something of the world, but now I know I was a fool, a blinded fool. It will be a proud day for me among these people when you publish how I picked you up from a little wayside schoolhouse! Couldn't you add a temperance society to your benevolent scheme of civilizing the heathens here, and send for Brydon to lecture for you. He boasts that you

saved him from being a sot, and doubtless if he knew your strait here, he would return the favor. There would be nothing in the way of his coming, for he has paid me for his board to the last penny. The whimpering hypocrite! He is making money at lecturing. How like a stupid staring fool you sit! Can't you get the deed for me? It is useless to have many words about it, but the land must be sold or worse things will happen. It is worth nothing to you. Do you hear?"

Mary started to her feet as he brought out these last words with a terrible emphasis, striking the table beside him as he spoke. "Edward"—she began.

"Come, I want no tragi-comedies now—I want that deed," he said sternly.

"For the children's sake do not let us go farther into the wilderness. I ask it for them," said Mary, trying to nerve herself up to her former resolve.

"It is the children that are driving me there, and you too," he half hissed through his grating teeth as he rose and bent towards her, "and you too; and the fiends from Ohio that are on my track—or will be if that devil Beaman plays me false! And they are worse fiends than gold hold of poor Lester when he died that night you were at the ball, and I drank the wine to drown his curses, you remember Mary; worse fiends, I say, will be on my track—he told me they would, and drag me to a blacker pit than the one he went into, and you, with your whining brats, would hold me here to be taken! Now are you satisfied? You are driving me mad with your stubborn perverseness, or I never should have told you this. It is to save you and the children, Mary—and me! Do you understand me, woman? Will you get the deed now?"

If the reader comprehends this speech it is more than Mary did at the time it was uttered. How or when her second journey through an uninhabited wilderness was made, she scarcely knew, or how long it was before she became conscious that they were living, not twenty, but seventy miles from C—, that the articles of household furniture she prized the most were left behind to grace the rooms of Mrs. Martin's log tavern, and that she, the once caressed and petted wife had become an object of indifference, or worse, of hatred in the sight of the husband she had worshipped. It was a slow and painful awakening from the long dream of hope with which she had beguiled her heart. When fully conscious that this, too, was not a fearful dream, Mary tried to arouse her energies to make the best of the realities around her. The place where they were living was one of the most distant points to which white men had then penetrated in north-western Michigan. It could scarcely be called a settlement. Aside from the Indians, there were not a dozen persons within fifty miles. Yet the situation was a pleasant one, on a clear, rapid stream, which, though not large, afforded inducements to tempt enterprise to the vicinity, and it was anticipated that a town would grow up rapidly on its banks. The house to which the Doctor had taken his family, was a comfortable log one, and they were well supplied with such provisions as were to be obtained; his medical knowledge giving him great power and influence among the Indians, his house was seldom destitute of some tokens of their successes in hunting and fishing. There was no lack of the common comforts of life to complain of. Even if there had been it would have made no change in Mary. What was in her patient heart her pale lips never spoke. The one settled purpose of her life seemed to be henceforth to forget herself in quiet, unobtrusive but faithful, tender and ceaseless devotion to her husband and children. There was no moping melancholy about her, no outward show of her life's sorrow, but a placid, sweet serenity so unvarying that one might easily be led to think she had never known emotions strong enough to cause a sigh of grief or frown of displeasure. This loving gentleness made her a dear companion-mother to her fair and fragile little girls, but it did not by any means suit her exacting husband. As we have before said, the Doctor was a proud man. Nature made him so, and all the debasing influences of drink could not change his nature. As he sunk in debauchery and shame, and pride of self vanished out of his heart, the passion seemed to fix itself with double force upon his children. He was often maddened by their mother's want of spirit, as he called it, in not bringing them up with higher opinions of themselves instead of making baby pets of them all their lives. He knew there was not their like in the whole Territory, for beauty and native intelligence. Their little town was growing rapidly, and he was determined that whatever might be his standing in society, his daughters as they grew to womanhood should be second to none. He hoped, he would often say, that he might live to see

them shame their tame and spiritless mother; he would have the world know what they were, even if he had to take them from her. Such threats made no change in the mother, except, perhaps, to increase her watchful tenderness. Wherever he wished his daughters to go, they went with her cheerful consent.—As the town increased in population, a dancing school was established, and fairest, airiest and most graceful of all the youthful forms gathered there were the drunkard's little daughters, Rebecca and Emma Freeland, dressed in garments made by their mother's hands from those she had worn in her happy hopeful days. Their father always went with them; he seemed as proud of the admiration they excited as he had once been of his now neglected but still devoted Mary.

(To be continued.)

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The currants should be fully ripe when picked; put them into a large tub, in which they may remain a day or two; then crush them with the hands, unless you have a small patent cider press, in which they should not be pressed too much, or the stems will be bruised and impart a disagreeable taste to the juice. If the hands are used, put the crushed fruit, after the juice has been poured off, in a cloth or sack and press out the remaining juice. Put the juice back in the tub after cleansing it, where it should remain for about three days, until the first stages of fermentation are over, and removing once or twice a day the scum copiously arising to the top. Then put the juice into a vessel—a demijohn, keg, or barrel—of a size to suit the quantity to be made, and to each quart of juice, add three pounds of the best brown sugar, (we prefer this to the loaf,) and water sufficient to make a gallon.

Thus, ten quarts of juice and thirty pounds of sugar, will give you ten gallons of wine, and so on in that proportion.

The cask must be full, and the bung or stopper left off until fermentation ceases, which will be in twelve or fifteen days. Meantime the cask must be filled up daily with water as fermentation throws out the impure matter. When fermentation ceases, rack the wine off carefully, either from the spigot or by a cyphon, and keep running all the time. Cleanse the cask thoroughly with boiling water, then return the wine, bung up tightly, and let stand for four or five months, when it will be fit to drink, and can be bottled if desired.

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Thousands of testimonials from the best farmers in the country can be produced, but we deem it unnecessary to publish them. We will merely insert the following from the St. Louis (Mo.) Republican, giving an account of the test trials of the various threshing machines at the Missouri State Fair held at St. Louis in 1858.

"TRIAL OF THRESHING MACHINES.

"As was announced on the previous day, the grand trial came off yesterday south of the agricultural grounds. The occasion was interesting, exciting and instructive, so much so that a great crowd was drawn off from the other departments to witness the test. The first trial was made on Cox & Robert's Patent Thresher and Cleaner, four horses were attached to the machine and in eight minutes (the length of time agreed upon) ten bushels and twenty-five pounds of wheat were threshed and cleaned. This thresher works with less noise, friction and vibration than any other machine that has come under our notice.

"The test was then applied to the following machines with the results appended.

EIGHT HORSE THRESHERS.

Moffatt's Patent, 10 bushels and 11 pounds.

Rawlston's Patent, 6 bushels and 58 pounds.

FOUR HORSE THRESHERS.

Moffatt's Patent, 7 bushels and 22 pounds.

Cox & Robert's Patent, 10 bushels and 25½ pounds.

The time occupied by each eight horse trial, as observed by reference to the above that the last named machine performed more with four than either of the others did with eight horses."

For further particulars apply to, or address by letter, COX, HIBBS & CO.,

Three Rivers, Mich.

24-9w

MICHIGAN FARMER.
R. F. JOHNSTONE, EDITOR.
 Publication Office, 130 Jefferson Avenue,
 DETROIT, MICHIGAN.

S. FOLSON,
WOOL DEALER,
 90 Woodward Avenue,
 DETROIT, MICHIGAN.

THE MARKETS.

Flour and Meal.

The advices from England and Europe still continue to have a depressing effect on the breadstuffs market at the east, and the confidence now felt in the prospect of an abundant harvest all through our own wheat-growing States prevents any further expectation of rise in prices here. The quotations range in this city from \$6.75 to \$7.25, and sales few and light.

The New York papers give the same state of the market as was quoted last week.

The Cincinnati Price Current of the 6th inst. remarks: "The market has dragged heavily during the entire week, the demand having been but moderate, and chiefly of a local nature; but the supplies being quite light, holders have been able to sustain prices pretty well, and much better than they could have done had the receipts been as large as they had been during June. The superior quality of the new crop wheat, as indicated by the samples exhibited on Change, during the week, has pretty generally removed all apprehension, previously entertained, respecting the loss sustained by the destruction of the frost, in a portion of this State and Pennsylvania, it being now generally admitted that the vacuum made by the loss, in the frost-districts, will not be perceptible, owing to the unusual yield of the crop generally."

At Chicago the market was quiet, with a slight decline in prices.

Flour—In this city at retail, stands at \$7.25 @ 7.50.

Wheat—White, \$1.45; No. 1 spring, \$1.44; No. 2 standard, \$1.05.

Corn—Western is quoted at 80c. Prime Indiana 85c.

Oats—Held at 45c.

Beans—In fair demand at 87c @ a \$1.

Butter—But little is sold, and old rates are still maintained—12c @ 13c.

Eggs—Declined to 13c @ 14c.

Live Stock, &c.

There is no change in the cattle market this city from last week. Quotations are precisely the same as then given.

We notice that in the Albany live stock market prices have declined still further. We quote:

	This Week.	Last Week.
Extra.....	5 1/2 @ 6 1/2	5 1/2 @ 6 1/2
First quality.....	4 1/2 @ 5 1/2	4 1/2 @ 5 1/2
Second quality.....	4 1/4 @ 5 1/4	4 1/4 @ 5 1/4
Third quality.....	3 3/4 @ 4 3/4	3 3/4 @ 4 3/4
Inferior.....	3 @ 4	3 @ 4

the market this week closing firm.

Among the droves on sale was one from Michigan, 17 head, J. C. Johnson; sold at \$49 per head; weight about 1,200 lbs.

The New York Tribune of the 7th inst., throws out the following suggestions for stock raisers, which a good many of them would find it to their interest to note and practice upon:

"The quality of stock in market this week is very variable. There are but few really well fed lots, though there are some very handsome and thrifty-looking steers, and a good many of just fair quality for the retail butchers, and there are whole droves that it would be actually wicked to kill—it is wasting a crop as much as it would be to cut a wheatfield in blossom; for the thirty steers are just in a condition to put on profit by grazing or grain-feeding. There are also some lots that make us wonder how it is possible for farmers who are possessed of sense enough to distinguish their intellect from that of the horned brutes do continue to raise such unprofitable crops of cattle, after having seen the successful operation of improving the breed with better blood.

"Will farmers please to notice in our notes of sales that there is a difference of five cents a pound in the quality of cattle, to say nothing of the much greater weight of those that sell the highest.

"The market, which closed on Tuesday evening like a drawn battle between the brokers and butchers, opened fresh this morning, with an increase of about 250 head of stock, but that had no effect upon the market, and prices continued to the close as good for the drovers as they were on Tuesday, so that we have felt justified in advancing quotations all round a cent a pound. Although the sales were slow, all of the first class cattle sold at 11c @ 12c, a pound net, and a few still higher."

The prices are quoted as follows:

First quality.....	11 @ 11 1/2
Medium.....	10 @ 10 1/2
Ordinary.....	8 1/2 @ 9 1/2
Some extra good may be quoted at.....	12 c
The general average of the market.....	10 1/2 @ 11 c
The most of the sales range from.....	9 1/2 @ 11 1/2

Wool.

The wool market excitement is about over, though a great portion of the clip still remains unsold. Advices from many towns in the interior state that in consequence of the slight decline last week, many farmers carried their wool home again, and will try to hold on for better prices. The quotations range about the same as last week, averaging generally from 38 to 48c. In many places local competition among buyers has run the rates up to 47 and 50 cents.

The following extracts from eastern papers will give a idea of the general state of wool affairs at present:

"On the part of regular dealers, the feeling continues dull and heavy, and the disposition is to hold off for lower prices. We cannot quote any positive decline, however, as manufacturers have, in some cases, been paying high rates for fine clips. The current rates in this market range from 25 to 45c, and for extra clip 50c is paid.

—Cin. Price Current.

"The private advices received from the growing districts this week are more favorable to purchasers, and to the effect that a decline on the fine grades of 25c @ 30c from the highest point, has been submitted to. Considerable quantities are coming forward on consignment. In this market there is no extraordinary activity, but sales to consumers have not made of 100,000 lb at 34c @ 35c, and 150 bales California at a price not made public. Foreign descriptions are still neglected, although we are advised that in Boston heavy purchases of Cape have been made for this market and by manufacturers at 25c @ 30c @ 31c for unwashed, 9 mos.—Economist.

"Native fleeces have come forward more freely, and we notice a lively demand for Delaine qualities at full prices; the sales aggregate 500,000 lb at prices varying from 25c @ 30c for common to choice, principally at 34c @ 35c for quarter to half, and three-quarters blood Merino and Saxony, deliverable in sixty days. Pulled is in fair request at full prices; sales of 25,000 lb at 30c @ 31c for No. 1 City and extra Country; 15,000 lb Lamb's at 34c @ 35c. Foreign is in good supply, and with a fair inquiry, prices are maintained; sales of 10,000 lb Unwashed Merino at 26c, 6 mos; 50 do Cordova and 250 do. Donakol on private terms. We quote:

Am. Saxony fleeces.....	36 @ 40
Am. full blood Merino.....	33 @ 35
Am. 3/4 and 1/2 Merino.....	40 @ 42
Am. native and 1/2 Merino.....	40 @ 42
Extra, Pulled.....	45 @ 50
Superfine, Pulled.....	37 @ 42
No. 1, Pulled.....	30 @ 35

—Tribune, 7th.

WALLACE'S WOOLEN FACTORY.

BATTLE CREEK, MICH.

THE SUBSCRIBER continues to manufacture wool into CLOTH, CASSIMERE, TWEEDS and FLANNEL for farmers, either on shares or by the yard. Terms as reasonable as any other good establishment in the State. Goods warranted perfect, hard twisted, and durable, free from cotton, old rags or flocks.

Farmers if you want a good article of cloth, send on your wool; it may be sent by railroad, with directions, and shall be promptly returned, and warranted to give satisfaction or all damages paid.

A large stock and good variety of cloths, stocking yarn, &c., always on hand.

He will pay the highest market price in cash, or cloth at wholesale prices, for any quantity of wool delivered at his factory.

Wool carding and cloth dressing done in the best manner on short notice. WILLIAM WALLACE, Battle Creek, Mich., 1859.

29-6m

THE IMPLEMENT FOR GARDENS.

THE HAND SCARIFIER.



PRICE \$3.50.

WE offer for sale the Hand Scarifier, the most desirable and useful implement for gardens, of any that has been invented, and the most perfect labor saver. Read the testimony of those who have tried it last season:

ROCHESTER, OAKLAND, CO., MICH., FEB., 1859.

Messrs. BLOSS & ADAMS:

You cannot recommend too highly your Hand Scarifier. It is an invaluable machine for cultivating all root crops sown in drills. It works easy, a boy of 12 years old can use it and do more work than five men with hoes in the same time. It pulverizes the surface of the ground and kills all the weeds. I had one the last season and speak from experience. A person having a quarter of an acre of garden to cultivate should not be without one and no farmer or gardener after using one a single hour would be without one for four times its cost.

W. JENNINGS.

ROCHESTER, OAKLAND, CO., MICH., FEB., 1859.

Messrs. BLOSS & ADAMS:

In answer to your inquiry, "How we like the Hand Scarifier," we reply that we are highly pleased with it. It is the greatest labor saving machine for its cost that we have ever used, or seen. All those in want of a good article of cloth for their own use, will do well to send their wool to Osborne's Factory. All work warranted well done and done to order. All wool sent to Ann Arbor by Rail Road will be promptly attended to. For further particulars please address at Ann Arbor, 28-6m

H. OSBORN & CO.

These implements are for sale, by the subscribers at their seed store, J. B. BLOSS & CO., No. 22 Monroe Avenue, Detroit.

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AYER'S CHERRY PECTORA

HAS won for itself such a renown for the cure of every variety of Throat and Lung Complaint, that it is entirely unnecessary for us to recount the evidence of its virtues, wherever it has been employed. As it has long been in constant use throughout this section, we need not do more than assure the people its quality is kept up to the best it has ever been, and that it may be relied on to do for their relief all it has ever been found to do.

AYER'S CATHARTIC PILLS,

For all the Purposes of a Purgative Medicine.

FOR COSTIVENESS;
 FOR THE CURE OF DYSPEPSIA;
 FOR JAUNDICE;
 FOR THE CURE OF INDIGESTION;
 FOR HEADACHE;
 FOR THE CURE OF DYSMENSTRUATION;
 FOR A FOUL STOMACH;
 FOR THE CURE OF DYSBETTER;
 FOR THE CURE OF SCROFULA;
 FOR ALL SCROFULOUS COMPLAINTS;
 FOR THE CURE OF RHEUMATISM;
 FOR DISEASES OF THE SKIN;
 FOR THE CURE OF GOUT;
 FOR DROPSY;
 FOR THE CURE OF TETTER, TUMORS AND SALT RHEUM;
 FOR WORMS;
 FOR THE CURE OF GOUT;
 FOR A DINNER PILL;
 FOR THE CURE OF NEURALGIA;
 FOR PURIFYING THE BLOOD.

They are sugar-coated, so that the most sensitive can take them pleasantly, and they are the best aperient in the world for all the purposes of a family.

Price 25 cents per Box; five Boxes for \$1.

Great numbers of Clergymen, Physicians, Statesmen, and eminent personages, have lent their names to certify the unparalleled usefulness of these remedies, but our space here will not permit the insertion of them. The Agents below names our American Almanac in which they are given; with also full descriptions of the above complaints, and the treatment that should be followed for their cure.

Do not be put off by unprincipled dealers with other preparations that make more profit on them. Demand Ayer's, and take no others. The sick want the best aid there is for them, and they should have it.

Prepared by Dr. J. C. AYER, PRACTICAL AND ANALYTICAL CHEMIST, Lowell, Mass.

All our remedies are for sale by J. B. Farrand, Detroit, and by all Druggists everywhere.

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IMPORTED STONE PLOVER!

THE HIGHEST AND BEST BRED BLOOD HORSE IN AMERICA.

IS OFFERED TO THE BREEDERS OF MICHIGAN and other States at the very low price of THIRTY DOLLARS the season; all fees to the groom included.

The second season for this horse in this State commenced on the first of April, and will end with the 30th of July. He will stand at

Cooper's Corners, two miles from Plymouth, Wayne county, Mich.; 10 miles from Ann Arbor; 10 miles from Ypsilanti; 18 miles from Dexter, and 22 miles from Detroit.

Mares sent from a distance will be taken and kept on the usual terms, but the subscriber will not in any case be responsible for accidents or escapes, should any occur.

Terms—The money for service to be paid at time of first trial, or an approved note to be given for the amount.

Pedigree and Description.

STONE PLOVER was bred by the Right Honorable Earl Spencer, and was foaled in the spring of 1850, and was sold to Count Bathany at his annual sale of yearlings in 1851, and was never out of the possession of the Count until sold to the present owner, who made one season with him in England, previous to his importation. This horse was sired by the renowned Cotherstone, winner of the Derby, out of Wynneke, by Slane, the sire of Merry Monarch, winner of the Derby, and Princess, winner of the Oaks, and also of many other distinguished winners. Cotherstone was bred by the celebrated Mr. Bowes, and was by Touchstone, out of Emma, by Whisker, she being the dam of imported Trustee. Whisker was of the most celebrated family in England for stoutness, being own brother to Whalebone, Woful, Wire, all winners and the sires of winners, at long distances. Touchstone was a grandson of Whalebone.

Stone Plover is a magnificent bay horse, 16 1/2 hands in height, on particular, short, strong legs, and great length, strength and substance, and is warranted as a sure foal getter. Independent of his great racing qualities, he is well calculated to elevate the character of all half bred stock, and to become the sire of the most valuable horses, which will be remarkable for size, spirit, endurance, and great action. He is himself of the most beautiful color, fine symmetry, great size, grand and majestic action and carriage, all of which is inherited from ancestors the most renowned in the annals of the Turf of Great Britain. He is free from defects, and is marked with neither curved hocks, splints, spavins, ringbones, twisted ankles, upright joints, or any other imperfection, and perfectly sound in his wind. For further particulars address the subscriber, Plymouth, April 16, 1859.

18-18w

THOMAS WILLIAMS, Plymouth, Michigan.

THE TROTTING ST